CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

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ORDER R5-2016-0012
NPDES NO. CA0079898

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CITY OF GRASS VALLEY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT NEVADA COUNTY

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements (WDR's) set forth in this Order:

Table 1. Discharger Information

Discharger	City of Grass Valley
Name of Facility	City of Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address	556C Freeman Lane
	Grass Valley, CA 95945
	Nevada County

Table 2. Discharge Location

Discharge Point	Effluent Description	Discharge Point Latitude (North)	Discharge Point Longitude (West)	Receiving Water
001	Treated Municipal Wastewater	39º 12' 19"	121º 04' 10"	Wolf Creek

Table 3. Administrative Information

This Order was adopted on:	**19 February 2016**
This Order shall become effective on:	**1 April 2016**
This Order shall expire on:	**31 March 2021**
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge as an application for reissuance of WDR's in accordance with title 23, California Code of Regulations, and an application for reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit no later than:	**1 October 2020**
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region have classified this discharge as follows:	Major

I, Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of the Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on **19 February 2016**.

Original signed by

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

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I. FACILITY INFORMATION

Information describing the City of Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) is summarized in Table 1 and in sections I and II of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F). Section I of the Fact Sheet also includes information regarding the Facility's permit application.

II. FINDINGS

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereinafter Central Valley Water Board), finds:

A. Legal Authorities. This Order serves as WDR's pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260).This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this Facility to surface waters.

B. Background and Rationale for Requirements. The Central Valley Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the application, through monitoring and reporting programs, and other available information. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F), which contains background information and rationale for the requirements in this Order, is hereby incorporated into and constitutes Findings for this Order. Attachments A through E and G through H are also incorporated into this Order.

C. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law. The provisions/requirements in subsections IV.B, IV.C, and V.B are included to implement state law only. These provisions/requirements are not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of these provisions/requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.

D. Monitoring and Reporting. 40 C.F.R. section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and State requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program is provided in Attachment E.

The technical and monitoring reports in this Order are required in accordance with Water Code section 13267, which states the following in subsection (b)(1), *"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."*

The Discharger owns and operates the Facility subject to this Order. The monitoring reports required by this Order are necessary to determine compliance with this Order. The need for the monitoring reports is discussed in the Fact Sheet.

E. Notification of Interested Parties. The Central Valley Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDR's for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of the notification are provided in the Fact Sheet.

F. Consideration of Public Comment. The Central Valley Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order R5-2009-0067 is rescinded upon the effective date of this Order except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the CWA and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order. This action in no way prevents the Central Valley Water Board from taking enforcement action for past violations of the previous Order.

III. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

A. Discharge of wastewater from the Facility, as the Facility is specifically described in the Fact Sheet in section II.B, in a manner different from that described in this Order is prohibited.

B. The by-pass or overflow of wastes to surface waters is prohibited, except as allowed by Federal Standard Provisions I.G. and I.H. (Attachment D).

C. Neither the discharge nor its treatment shall create a nuisance as defined in section 13050 of the Water Code.

D. The Discharger shall not allow pollutant-free wastewater to be discharged into the treatment or disposal system in amounts that significantly diminish the system's capability to comply with this Order. Pollutant-free wastewater means rainfall, groundwater, cooling waters, and condensates that are essentially free of pollutants.

IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001

1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001

The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point 001, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as described in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E:

a. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the effluent limitations specified in Table 4:

Table 4. Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Conventional Pollutants						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	230	350	500	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.0
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	230	350	500	--	--

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Priority Pollutants						
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	4.3	--	8.5	--	--
Non-Conventional Pollutants						
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.6	3.5	--	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	37	81	--	--	--
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	10	19	--	--	--

[1] Based on average dry weather flow of 2.78 million gallons per day (MGD).

b. **Percent Removal:** The average monthly percent removal of 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5) and total suspended solids (TSS) shall not be less than 85 percent.

c. **Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity.** Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than:

i. 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and
ii. 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.

d. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity.** There shall be no chronic toxicity in the effluent discharge.

e. **Total Coliform Organisms.** Effluent total coliform organisms shall not exceed:

i. 2.2 most probable number (MPN) per 100 mL, as a 7-day median;
ii. 23 MPN/100 mL, more than once in any 30-day period; and
iii. 240 MPN/100 mL, at any time.

f. **Average Dry Weather Flow.** The average dry weather discharge flow shall not exceed 2.78 MGD.

g. **Annual Mercury Mass Loading.** The effluent calendar year total mercury load shall not exceed 0.068 pounds per year.

B. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

C. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations

The discharge shall not cause the following in Wolf Creek:

1. **Bacteria.** The fecal coliform concentration, based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period, to exceed a geometric mean of 200 MPN/100 mL, nor more than 10 percent of the total number of fecal coliform samples taken during any 30-day period to exceed 400 MPN/100 mL.

2. **Biostimulatory Substances.** Water to contain biostimulatory substances which promote aquatic growths in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

3. **Chemical Constituents.** Chemical constituents to be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
4. **Color.** Discoloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. **Dissolved Oxygen:**
    a. The monthly median of the mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 85 percent of saturation in the main water mass;
    b. The 95 percentile dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 75 percent of saturation; nor
    c. The dissolved oxygen concentration to be reduced below 7.0 mg/L at any time.
6. **Floating Material.** Floating material to be present in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
7. **Oil and Grease.** Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.
8. **pH.** The pH to be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5.
9. **Pesticides:**
    a. Pesticides to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
    b. Pesticides to be present in bottom sediments or aquatic life in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
    c. Total identifiable persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides to be present in the water column at concentrations detectable within the accuracy of analytical methods approved by U.S. EPA or the Executive Officer;
    d. Pesticide concentrations to exceed those allowable by applicable antidegradation policies (see State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and 40 CFR 131.12.);
    e. Pesticide concentrations to exceed the lowest levels technically and economically achievable;
    f. Pesticides to be present in concentration in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) set forth in CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 15; nor
    g. Thiobencarb to be present in excess of 1.0 µg/L.
10. **Radioactivity:**
    a. Radionuclides to be present in concentrations that are harmful to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life nor that result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
    b. Radionuclides to be present in excess of the MCL's specified in Table 64442 of section 64442 and Table 64443 of section 64443 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.
11. **Suspended Sediments.** The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters to be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
12. **Settleable Substances.** Substances to be present in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

13. **Suspended Material.** Suspended material to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

14. **Taste and Odors.** Taste- or odor-producing substances to be present in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

15. **Temperature.** The natural temperature to be increased by more than 5°F. Compliance to be determined based on the difference in temperature at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002.

16. **Toxicity.** Toxic substances to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

17. **Turbidity.**

    a. Shall not exceed 2 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) where natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU;

    b. Shall not increase more than 1 NTU where natural turbidity is between 1 and 5 NTUs;

    c. Shall not increase more than 20 percent where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs;

    d. Shall not increase more than 10 NTU where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs; nor

    e. Shall not increase more than 10 percent where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs.

B. Groundwater Limitations

1. Release of waste constituents from any portion of the Facility shall not cause the underlying groundwater to contain waste constituents in concentrations greater than background water quality or water quality objectives, whichever is greater. The discharge shall not cause the groundwater to exceed water quality objectives, unresonably affect beneficial uses, or cause a condition of pollution or nuisance.

VI. PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D.

2. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions. In the event that there is any conflict, duplication, or overlap between provisions specified by this Order, the more stringent provision shall apply:

    a. If the Discharger's wastewater treatment plant is publicly owned or subject to regulation by California Public Utilities Commission, it shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certificates of appropriate grade according to Title 23, CCR, division 3, chapter 26.

    b. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Order may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to:

        i. violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;

        ii. obtaining this Order by misrepresentation or by failing to disclose fully all relevant facts;

iii. a change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge; and

iv. a material change in the character, location, or volume of discharge.

The causes for modification include:

i. *New regulations.* New regulations have been promulgated under section 405(d) of the CWA, or the standards or regulations on which the permit was based have been changed by promulgation of amended standards or regulations or by judicial decision after the permit was issued.

ii. *Land application plans.* When required by a permit condition to incorporate a land application plan for beneficial reuse of sewage sludge, to revise an existing land application plan, or to add a land application plan.

iii. *Change in sludge use or disposal practice.* Under 40 CFR section 122.62(a)(1), a change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practice is a cause for modification of the permit. It is cause for revocation and reissuance if the Discharger requests or agrees.

The Central Valley Water Board may review and revise this Order at any time upon application of any affected person or the Central Valley Water Board's own motion.

c. If a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any scheduled compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under section 307(a) of the CWA, or amendments thereto, for a toxic pollutant that is present in the discharge authorized herein, and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation upon such pollutant in this Order, the Central Valley Water Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such toxic effluent standard or prohibition.

The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards and prohibitions within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified.

d. This Order shall be modified, or alternately revoked and reissued, to comply with any applicable effluent standard or limitation issued or approved under sections 301(b)(2)(C) and (D), 304(b)(2), and 307(a)(2) of the CWA, if the effluent standard or limitation so issued or approved:

i. Contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the Order; or

ii. Controls any pollutant limited in the Order.

The Order, as modified or reissued under this paragraph, shall also contain any other requirements of the CWA then applicable.

e. The provisions of this Order are severable. If any provision of this Order is found invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected.

f. The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse effects to waters of the State or users of those waters resulting from any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order. Reasonable steps shall include such accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the non-complying discharge or sludge use or disposal.

g. The Discharger shall ensure compliance with any existing or future pretreatment standard promulgated by U.S. EPA under section 307 of the CWA, or amendment thereto, for any discharge to the municipal system.

h. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the discharge facility and be available at all times to operating personnel. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its content.

i. Safeguard to electric power failure:

   i. The Discharger shall provide safeguards to assure that, should there be reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the discharge shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order.

   ii. Upon written request by the Central Valley Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a written description of safeguards. Such safeguards may include alternate power sources, standby generators, retention capacity, operating procedures, or other means. A description of the safeguards provided shall include an analysis of the frequency, duration, and impact of power failures experienced over the past 5 years on effluent quality and on the capability of the Discharger to comply with the terms and conditions of the Order. The adequacy of the safeguards is subject to the approval of the Central Valley Water Board.

   iii. Should the treatment works not include safeguards against reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, or should the Central Valley Water Board not approve the existing safeguards, the Discharger shall, within 90 days of having been advised in writing by the Central Valley Water Board that the existing safeguards are inadequate, provide to the Central Valley Water Board and U.S. EPA a schedule of compliance for providing safeguards such that in the event of reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the Discharger shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order. The schedule of compliance shall, upon approval of the Central Valley Water Board, become a condition of this Order.

j. The Discharger, upon written request of the Central Valley Water Board, shall file with the Board a technical report on its preventive (failsafe) and contingency (cleanup) plans for controlling accidental discharges, and for minimizing the effect of such events. This report may be combined with that required under the Central Valley Water Board Standard Provision contained in section VI.A.2.i of this Order.

   The technical report shall:

   i. Identify the possible sources of spills, leaks, untreated waste by-pass, and contaminated drainage. Loading and storage areas, power outage, waste treatment unit outage, and failure of process equipment, tanks and pipes should be considered.

   ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of present facilities and procedures and state when they became operational.

   iii. Predict the effectiveness of the proposed facilities and procedures and provide an implementation schedule containing interim and final dates when they will be constructed, implemented, or operational.

   The Central Valley Water Board, after review of the technical report, may establish conditions which it deems necessary to control accidental discharges and to

minimize the effects of such events. Such conditions shall be incorporated as part of this Order, upon notice to the Discharger.

k. A publicly owned treatment works whose waste flow has been increasing, or is projected to increase, shall estimate when flows will reach hydraulic and treatment capacities of its treatment and disposal facilities. The projections shall be made in January, based on the last 3 years' average dry weather flows, peak wet weather flows and total annual flows, as appropriate. When any projection shows that capacity of any part of the facilities may be exceeded in 4 years, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by 31 January. A copy of the notification shall be sent to appropriate local elected officials, local permitting agencies and the press. Within 120 days of the notification, the Discharger shall submit a technical report showing how it will prevent flow volumes from exceeding capacity or how it will increase capacity to handle the larger flows. The Central Valley Water Board may extend the time for submitting the report.

l. The Discharger shall submit technical reports as directed by the Executive Officer. All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. To demonstrate compliance with Title 16, CCR, sections 415 and 3065, all technical reports must contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.

m. The Central Valley Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

n. For publicly owned treatment works, prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a permanent decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. (Water Code section 1211).

o. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board.

To assume operation under this Order, the succeeding owner or operator must apply in writing to the Executive Officer requesting transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the state of incorporation if a corporation, address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Central Valley Water Board and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory and certification requirements in the federal Standard Provisions (Attachment D, section V.B) and state that the new owner or operator assumes full responsibility for compliance with this Order. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without requirements, a violation of the Water Code. Transfer shall be approved or disapproved in writing by the Executive Officer.

p. Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from this facility, may subject the Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities.

q. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation of this Order, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by telephone (916) 464-3291 within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing within five days, unless the Central Valley Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall state the nature, time, duration, and cause of noncompliance, and shall describe the measures being taken to remedy the current noncompliance and prevent recurrence including, where applicable, a schedule of implementation. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.

B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements

The Discharger shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E.

C. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

a. Conditions that necessitate a major modification of a permit are described in 40 CFR section 122.62, including, but not limited to:

i. If new or amended applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to section 303 of the CWA, or amendments thereto, this permit may be reopened and modified in accordance with the new or amended standards.

ii. When new information, that was not available at the time of permit issuance, would have justified different permit conditions at the time of issuance.

b. This Order may be reopened for modification, or revocation and reissuance, as a result of the detection of a reportable priority pollutant generated by special conditions included in this Order. These special conditions may be, but are not limited to, fish tissue sampling, whole effluent toxicity, monitoring requirements on internal waste stream(s), and monitoring for surrogate parameters. Additional requirements may be included in this Order as a result of the special condition monitoring data.

c. **Mercury.** If mercury is found to be causing toxicity based on acute or chronic toxicity test results, or if a TMDL program is adopted, this Order shall be reopened and the mass effluent limitation modified (higher or lower) or an effluent concentration limitation imposed. If the Central Valley Water Board determines that a mercury offset program is feasible for Dischargers subject to a NPDES permit, then this Order may be reopened to reevaluate the mercury mass loading limitation(s) and the need for a mercury offset program for the Discharger.

d. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** As a result of a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE), this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE. Additionally, if the State Water Board revises the SIP's toxicity control provisions

that would require the establishment of numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations, this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitation based on the new provisions.

e. **Water Effects Ratios (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating criteria for applicable inorganic constituents except for copper and zinc, which have site-specific WER's based on an October 2008 study. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable, except for copper and zinc. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WER's and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.

f. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection Operating Specifications.** The UV operating specifications in this Order are based on the UV guidelines developed by the National Water Research Institute and American Water Works Association Research Foundation titled, "*Ultraviolet Disinfection Guidelines for Drinking Water and Water Reuse*." If the Discharger conducts a site-specific UV engineering study that identifies site-specific UV operating specifications that will achieve the virus inactivation equivalent to Title 22 disinfected tertiary recycled water, this Order may be reopened to modify the UV operating specifications.

g. **Dilution/Mixing Zone Study.** In Order to allow dilution credits for the calculation of WQBEL's, the Discharger must submit an approved Dilution/Mixing Zone Study which meets all of the requirements of Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP. Should the Discharger submit an approved Dilution/Mixing Zone Study that meets the requirements of Section 1.4.2.2 of the SIP, the Central Valley Water Board may reopen this Order to include effluent limitations based on an appropriate dilution factor.

2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements

a. **Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Requirements.** For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing, as specified in MRP section V. Furthermore, this Provision requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge exceeds the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring established in this Provision, the Discharger is required to initiate a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) in accordance with an approved TRE Work Plan, or conduct a Toxicity Evaluation Study approved by the Executive Officer, and take actions to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent recurrence of toxicity. A TRE is a site-specific study conducted in a stepwise process to identify the source(s) of toxicity and the effective control measures for effluent toxicity. TREs are designed to identify the causative agents and sources of whole effluent toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of the toxicity control options, and confirm the reduction in effluent toxicity. The Discharger experienced intermittent and low level effluent chronic toxicity to growth of *Selenastrum capricornutum*. In 2011 the Discharger completed a TRE for *S. capricornutum* that was inconclusive. Subsequently, in 2014 the Discharger initiated a TRE which showed pre-UV disinfection *S. capricornutum* growth was two to three times higher than post-UV; therefore, it was suspected that UV disinfection may itself inhibit *S. capricornutum* growth. Since the same pattern has been exhibited at other wastewater treatment facilities that

employ ultraviolet disinfection systems, the Discharger may conduct a Toxicity Evaluation Study for *S. capricornutum* if toxicity is ≤ 2 TUc, individually or as part of a coordinated group effort with other dischargers that evaluate low level and intermittent toxicity in effluent disinfected by a UV disinfection system. If the chronic toxicity is ≥ 2.1 TUc, then the Discharger shall conduct accelerated monitoring. This Provision includes procedures for accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring and TRE initiation, or a Toxicity Evaluation Study.

i. **Accelerated Monitoring and TRE Initiation.** When the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity monitoring, and the testing meets all test acceptability criteria, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring as required in the Accelerated Monitoring Specifications, or, if the toxicity is ≤ 2 TUc the Discharger may conduct a Toxicity Evaluation Study approved by the Executive Officer. If the Discharger pursues conducting accelerated monitoring, then the Discharger shall initiate a TRE or a Toxicity Evaluation Study to address effluent toxicity if any WET testing results exceed the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring.

ii. **Numeric Toxicity Monitoring Trigger.** The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger to initiate a TRE is >1 TUc (where TUc = 100/NOEC). The monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to begin accelerated monitoring and initiate a TRE.

iii. **Accelerated Monitoring Specifications.** If the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity testing, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring or submit a Toxicity Evaluation Study Work Plan within 14-days of notification by the laboratory of the exceedance. Accelerated monitoring shall consist of four chronic toxicity tests conducted once every two weeks using the species that exhibited toxicity. The following protocol shall be used for accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation:

(a) If the results of four consecutive accelerated monitoring tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring. However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of a pattern of effluent toxicity, the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.

(b) If the source(s) of the toxicity is easily identified (e.g., temporary plant upset), the Discharger shall make necessary corrections to the facility and shall continue accelerated monitoring until four consecutive accelerated tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger. Upon confirmation that the effluent toxicity has been removed, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring.

(c) If the result of any accelerated toxicity test exceeds the monitoring trigger, the Discharger shall cease accelerated monitoring and begin a TRE or if the toxicity is ≤ 2 TUc a Toxicity Evaluation Study to investigate the cause(s) of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. Within thirty (30) days of notification by the laboratory of any test result exceeding the monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring, the Discharger shall submit a TRE Action Plan or a Toxicity Evaluation Study Work Plan to the Central Valley Water Board including, at minimum:

(1) Specific actions the Discharger will take to investigate and identify the cause(s) of toxicity, including a TRE WET monitoring schedule;

(2) Specific actions the Discharger will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and

(3) A schedule for these actions.

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** The Discharger shall continue to implement a salinity evaluation and minimization plan to address sources of salinity from the Facility. The Discharger shall provide annual reports discussing the effectiveness of implementing the salinity evaluation and minimization plan, and changes in the salinity in the effluent discharge if it is increasing. The salinity evaluation and minimization plan shall be reviewed and updated as necessary as part of the report of waste discharge. If the plan is updated, it shall be submitted with the report of waste discharge **180 days prior to the Order expiration date**. The annual reports shall be submitted in accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E, section X.D.1).

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications

a. **Filtration System Operating Specifications.** To ensure the filtration system is operating properly to provide adequate disinfection of the wastewater, the turbidity of the filter effluent measured at Monitoring Location FIL-001 shall not exceed:

i. 2 NTU as a daily average;

ii. 5 NTU more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period; and

iii. 10 NTU, at any time.

b. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System Operating Specifications.** The UV disinfection system must be operated in accordance with an operations and maintenance program that assures adequate disinfection, and shall meet the following minimum specifications to provide virus inactivation equivalent to Title 22 Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water:

i. **UV Dose.** The minimum hourly average UV dose in the UV reactor shall be 100 millijoules per square centimeter (mJ/cm^2).

ii. **UV Transmittance**. The minimum hourly average UV transmittance (at 254 nanometers) in the wastewater measured at Monitoring Location UVS-001 shall not fall below 55 percent.

iii. The lamp sleeves and cleaning system components must be visually inspected per the manufacturer's operations manual for physical wear (scoring, solarization, seal leaks, cleaning fluid levels, etc.) and to check the efficacy of the cleaning system.

iv. The lamp sleeves must be cleaned periodically as necessary to meet the UV dose requirements.

v. Lamps must be replaced per the manufacturer's operations manual, or sooner, if there are indications the lamps are failing to provide adequate disinfection. Lamp age and lamp replacement records must be maintained.

c. **Treatment Pond Operating Requirements**

i. No waste constituent shall be released, discharged, or placed where it will cause a violation of the Groundwater Limitations of this Order.

ii. Wastewater treatment, storage, and disposal shall not cause pollution or a nuisance as defined by Water Code section 13050.

iii. Public contact with wastewater shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, and other acceptable alternatives.

iv. Ponds shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular,

(a) An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.

(b) Weeds shall be minimized.

(c) Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.

v. Freeboard shall not be less than 2 feet (measured vertically to the lowest point of overflow as a monthly average and never less than 1 foot at any time.

vi. Objectionable odors shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the Facility property at an intensity that creates or threatens to create nuisance conditions.

vii. As a means of discerning compliance with Specification c.iv, the dissolved oxygen (DO) content in the upper one foot of any wastewater treatment or storage pond shall not be less than 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive weekly sampling events. If the DO in any single pond is below 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive sampling events, the Discharger shall report the findings to the Central Valley Water Board in writing within 10 days and shall include a specific plan to resolve the low DO results within 30 days.

d. The treatment facilities shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTW's Only)

a. **Pretreatment Requirements**

i. The Discharger shall be responsible and liable for the performance of all Control Authority pretreatment requirements contained in 40 C.F.R. part 403, including any subsequent regulatory revisions to 40 C.F.R. part 403. Where 40 C.F.R. part 403 or subsequent revision places mandatory actions upon the Discharger as Control Authority but does not specify a timetable for completion of the actions, the Discharger shall complete the required actions within 6 months from the issuance date of this permit or the effective date of the 40 C.F.R. part 403 revisions, whichever comes later. For violations of pretreatment requirements, the Discharger shall be subject to enforcement actions, penalties, fines, and other remedies by U.S. EPA or other appropriate parties, as provided in the CWA. U.S. EPA may initiate enforcement action against a nondomestic user for noncompliance with applicable standards and requirements as provided in the CWA.

ii. The Discharger shall enforce the requirements promulgated under sections 307(b), 307(c), 307(d), and 402(b) of the CWA with timely, appropriate and effective enforcement actions. The Discharger shall cause all nondomestic users subject to federal categorical standards to achieve compliance no later

than the date specified in those requirements or, in the case of a new nondomestic user, upon commencement of the discharge.

iii. The Discharger shall perform the pretreatment functions as required in 40 C.F.R. part 403 including, but not limited to:

(a) Implement the necessary legal authorities as provided in 40 CFR section 403.8(f)(1);

(b) Enforce the pretreatment requirements under 40 C.F.R. section 403.5 and 403.6;

(c) Implement the programmatic functions as provided in 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2); and

(d) Provide the requisite funding and personnel to implement the pretreatment program as provided in 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(3).

iv. **Pretreatment Reporting Requirements.** Pretreatment reporting requirements are included in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, section X.D.5 of Attachment E.

b. **Sludge/Biosolids Treatment or Discharge Specifications.** Sludge in this document means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes. Solid waste refers to grit and screening material generated during preliminary treatment. Residual sludge means sludge that will not be subject to further treatment at the wastewater treatment plant. Biosolids refer to sludge that has been treated and tested and shown to be capable of being beneficially and legally used pursuant to federal and state regulations as a soil amendment for agricultural, silvicultural, horticultural, and land reclamation activities as specified under 40 C.F.R. part 503.

i. Collected screenings, residual sludge, biosolids, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer, and consistent with Consolidated Regulations for Treatment, Storage, Processing, or Disposal of Solid Waste, as set forth in Title 27, CCR, division 2, subdivision 1, section 20005, et seq. Removal for further treatment, storage, disposal, or reuse at sites (e.g., landfill, composting sites, soil amendment sites) that are operated in accordance with valid waste discharge requirements issued by a Regional Water Board will satisfy these specifications.

Sludge and solid waste shall be removed from screens, sumps, ponds, clarifiers, etc. as needed to ensure optimal plant performance.

The treatment of sludge generated at the Facility shall be confined to the Facility property and conducted in a manner that precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations in section V.B. of this Order. In addition, the storage of residual sludge, solid waste, and biosolids on Facility property shall be temporary and controlled, and contained in a manner that minimizes leachate formation and precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations included in section V.B. of this Order.

ii. The use, disposal, storage, and transportation of biosolids shall comply with existing federal and state laws and regulations, including permitting requirements and technical standards included in 40 C.F.R. part 503. If the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board are given the authority

to implement regulations contained in 40 C.F.R. part 503, this Order may be reopened to incorporate appropriate time schedules and technical standards. The Discharger must comply with the standards and time schedules contained in 40 C.F.R. part 503 whether or not they have been incorporated into this Order.

iii. The Discharger shall comply with Section IX.A. Biosolids of the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E.

iv. Any proposed change in biosolids use or disposal practice from a previously approved practice shall be reported to the Executive Officer and U.S. EPA Regional Administrator at least **90 days** in advance of the change.

c. **Collection System.** On 2 May 2006, the State Water Board adopted State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, Statewide General WDR's for Sanitary Sewer Systems. The Discharger shall be subject to the requirements of Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ and any future revisions thereto. Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ requires that all public agencies that currently own or operate sanitary sewer systems apply for coverage under the general WDR's. The Discharger has applied for and has been approved for coverage under Order 2006-0003-DWQ for operation of its wastewater collection system.

d. **Anaerobically Digestible Material.** If the Discharger proposes to receive hauled-in anaerobically digestible material for injection into an anaerobic digester for co-digestion, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board and develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOP's) for this activity prior to initiation of the hauling. The SOP's shall address material handling, including unloading, screening, or other processing prior to anaerobic digestion; transportation; spill prevention; and spill response. In addition, the SOP's shall address avoidance of the introduction of materials that could cause interference, pass-through, or upset of the treatment processes; avoidance of prohibited material, vector control, odor control, operation and maintenance, and the disposition of any solid waste segregated from introduction to the digester. The Discharger shall provide training to its staff on the SOP's and shall maintain records for a minimum of three years for each load received, describing the hauler, waste type, and quantity received. In addition, the Discharger shall maintain records for a minimum of three years for the disposition, location, and quantity of accumulated pre-digestion-segregated solid waste hauled off-site.

6. Other Special Provisions

a. **Title 22, or Equivalent, Disinfection Requirements.** Wastewater shall be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3, (Title 22), or equivalent.

7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable

VII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

A. BOD_5 and TSS Effluent Limitations (Sections IV.A.1.a and IV.A.1.b). Compliance with the final effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS required in Limitations and Discharge Requirements section IV.A.1.a shall be ascertained by 24-hour composite samples. Compliance with effluent limitations required in Limitations and Discharge Requirements section IV.A.1.b for percent removal shall be calculated using the arithmetic mean of BOD_5 and TSS in effluent samples collected over a monthly period as a percentage of the arithmetic

mean of the values for influent samples collected at approximately the same times during the same period.

B. Annual Mercury Mass Loading Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.g). The procedures for calculating mass loadings are as follows:

1. The total pollutant mass load for each individual calendar month shall be determined using an average of all concentration data collected that month and the corresponding total monthly flow. All effluent monitoring data collected under the monitoring and reporting program, pretreatment program, and any special studies shall be used for these calculations. The calendar year total mass loading shall be the sum of the individual calendar months.

2. In calculating compliance, the Discharger shall count all non-detect measures at one-half of the detection level. If compliance with the effluent limitation is not attained due to the non-detect contribution, the Discharger shall improve and implement available analytical capabilities and compliance shall be evaluated with consideration of the detection limits.

C. Average Dry Weather Flow Effluent Limitation (Section IV.A.1.f). The average dry weather discharge flow represents the daily average flow when groundwater is at or near normal and runoff is not occurring. Compliance with the average dry weather flow effluent limitations will be determined annually based on the average daily flow over three consecutive dry weather months (e.g., July, August, and September).

D. Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.e). For each day that an effluent sample is collected and analyzed for total coliform organisms, the 7-day median shall be determined by calculating the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the effluent utilizing the bacteriological results of the last 7 days. For example, if a sample is collected on a Wednesday, the result from that sampling event and all results from the previous 6 days (i.e., Tuesday, Monday, Sunday, Saturday, Friday, and Thursday) are used to calculate the 7-day median. If the 7-day median of total coliform organisms exceeds a most probable number (MPN) of 2.2 per 100 milliliters, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance.

E. Mass Effluent Limitations. The mass effluent limitations contained in the Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a are based on the permitted average dry weather flow and calculated as follows:

Mass (lbs/day) = Flow (MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34 (conversion factor)

If the effluent flow exceeds the permitted average dry weather flow during wet-weather seasons, the effluent mass limitations contained in Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a shall not apply. If the effluent flow is below the permitted average dry weather flow during wet-weather seasons, the effluent mass limitations do apply.

F. Priority Pollutant Effluent Limitations. Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined in accordance with Section 2.4.5 of the SIP, as follows:

1. Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation, if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reporting level (RL).

2. Dischargers shall be required to conduct a Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP) in accordance with section 2.4.5.1 of the SIP when there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and either:

   a. A sample result is reported as detected, but not quantified (DNQ) and the effluent limitation is less than the RL; or

b. A sample result is reported as non-detect (ND) and the effluent limitation is less than the method detection limit (MDL).

3. When determining compliance with an average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) or average weekly effluent limitation (AWEL) and more than one sample result is available in a month or week, respectively; the discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

   a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.

   b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

4. If a sample result, or the arithmetic mean or median of multiple sample results, is below the RL, and there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and the discharger conducts a PMP (as described in section 2.4.5.1), the discharger shall not be deemed out of compliance.

G. Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Effluent Limitation (Section IV.A.1.d). Compliance with the accelerated monitoring and TRE provisions of Provision VI.C.2.a shall constitute compliance with the effluent limitation.

ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

Arithmetic Mean (μ)
Also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

Arithmetic mean = $\mu = \Sigma x / n$ where: Σx is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and n is the number of samples.

Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)
The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)
The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

Bioaccumulative
Those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

Carcinogenic
Pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

Coefficient of Variation (CV)
CV is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

Daily Discharge
Daily Discharge is defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)
DNQ are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL. Sample results reported as DNQ are estimated concentrations.

Dilution Credit
Dilution Credit is the amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)
ECA is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as waste load allocation (WLA) as used in U.S. EPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

Enclosed Bays
Enclosed Bays means indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays include, but are not limited to, Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drake's Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

Estimated Chemical Concentration
The estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

Estuaries
Estuaries means waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouths of streams that serve as areas of mixing for fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and seawater. Estuarine waters included, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in Water Code section 12220, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to the Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Mad, Eel, Noyo, Russian, Klamath, San Diego, and Otay rivers. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

Inland Surface Waters
All surface waters of the state that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation
The highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation
The lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)
The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

Median
The middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of

measurements (n) is odd, then the median = $X_{(n+1)/2}$. If n is even, then the median = ($X_{n/2}$ + $X_{(n/2)+1}$)/2 (i.e., the midpoint between the n/2 and n/2+1).

Method Detection Limit (MDL)
MDL is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in in 40 C.F.R. part 136, Attachment B, revised as of July 3, 1999.

Minimum Level (ML)
ML is the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

Mixing Zone
Mixing Zone is a limited volume of receiving water that is allocated for mixing with a wastewater discharge where water quality criteria can be exceeded without causing adverse effects to the overall water body.

Not Detected (ND)
Sample results which are less than the laboratory's MDL.

Ocean Waters
The territorial marine waters of the State as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Water Board's California Ocean Plan.

Persistent Pollutants
Persistent pollutants are substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)
PMP means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Central Valley Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

Pollution Prevention
Pollution Prevention means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in Water Code section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Central Valley Water Board.

Satellite Collection System
The portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

Source of Drinking Water
Any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in a Central Valley Water Board Basin Plan.

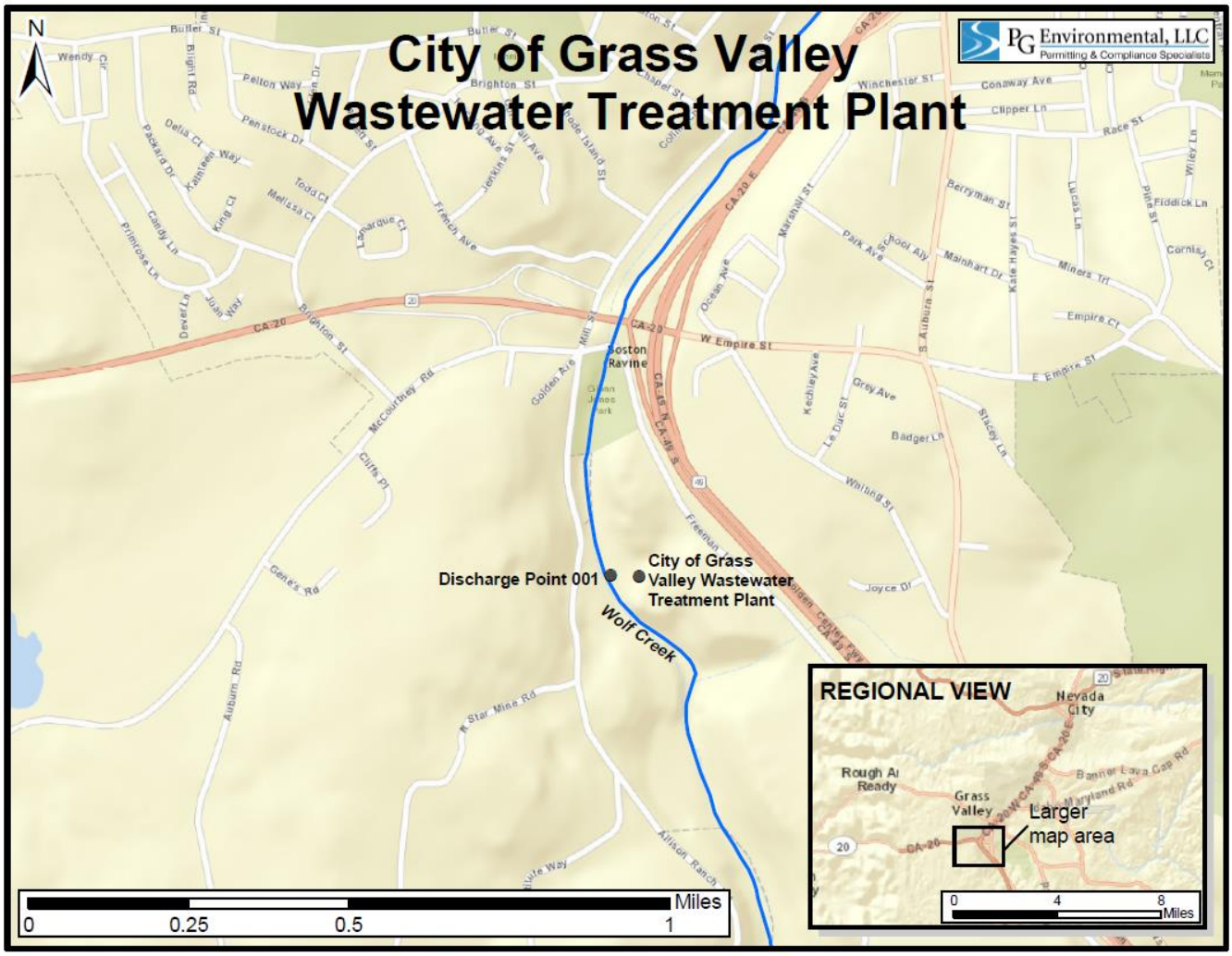
Standard Deviation (σ)
Standard Deviation is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = (\sum[(x - \mu)^2]/(n - 1))^{0.5}$$

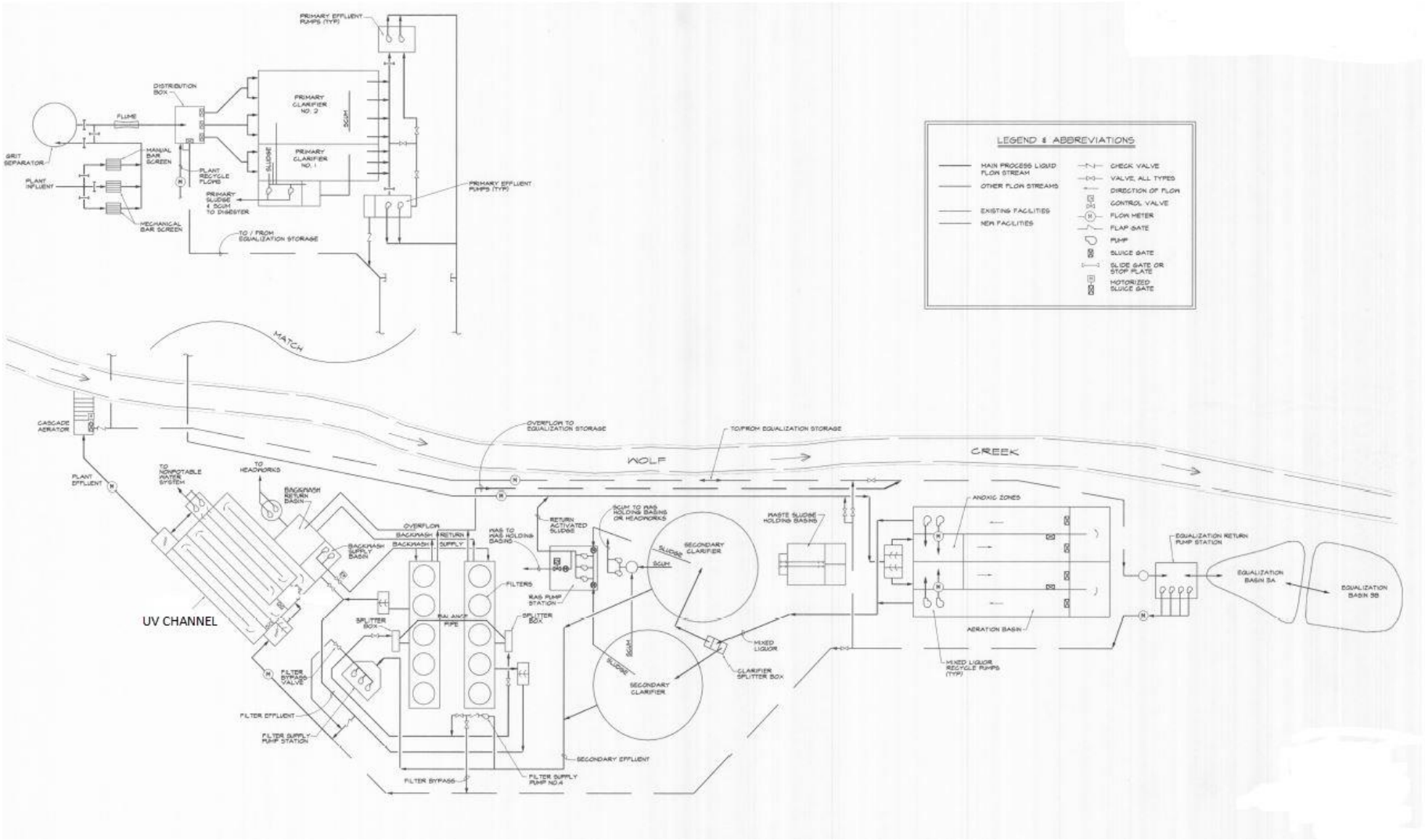
where:
x is the observed value;
μ is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and
n is the number of samples.

Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)
TRE is a study conducted in a step-wise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity. The first steps of the TRE consist of the collection of data relevant to the toxicity, including additional toxicity testing, and an evaluation of facility operations and maintenance practices, and best management practices. A Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate. (A TIE is a set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.)

ATTACHMENT B – MAP



ATTACHMENT C – FLOW SCHEMATIC



ATTACHMENT D – STANDARD PROVISIONS

I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE

A. Duty to Comply

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the terms, requirements, and conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action; permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; denial of a permit renewal application; or a combination thereof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a); Wat. Code, §§ 13261, 13263, 13265, 13268, 13000, 13001, 13304, 13350, 13385.)

2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

E. Property Rights

1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)

2. The issuance of this Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. (40 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

F. Inspection and Entry

The Discharger shall allow the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, U.S. EPA, and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, § 13267, 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order (33 U.S.C § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383);

2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383);

3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order (33 U.S.C § 1318(a)(4)(B)(ii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3); Wat. Code, § 13267, 13383); and

4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (33 U.S.C § 1318(a)(4)(B); 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383.)

G. Bypass

1. Definitions

   a. “Bypass” means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).)

   b. “Severe property damage” means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)

2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)

3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Central Valley Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):

   a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A));

   b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and

   c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Central Valley Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)

4. The Central Valley Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Central Valley Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)

5. Notice

   a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)

   b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

H. Upset

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Discharger. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.H.2 below are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).)

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):

   a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));

   b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));

   c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and

   d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)

3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION

A. General

This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Order condition. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(f).)

B. Duty to Reapply

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

C. Transfers

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Central Valley Water Board. The Central Valley Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(3); 122.61.)

III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING

A. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)

B. Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 for the analyses of pollutants unless another method is required under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O. In the case of pollutants for which there are no approved methods under 40 C.F.R. part 136 or otherwise required under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O, monitoring must be conducted according to a test procedure specified in this Order for such pollutants. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(4); 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS

A. Except for records of monitoring information required by this Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 C.F.R. part 503), the Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)

B. Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
3. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
5. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
6. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)

C. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):

1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING

A. Duty to Provide Information

The Discharger shall furnish to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order or to determine compliance with this Order. Upon request, the Discharger shall also furnish to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA copies of records required to be kept by this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Wat. Code, §§ 13267, 13383.)

B. Signatory and Certification Requirements

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, and/or U.S. EPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, and V.B.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)

2. All permit applications shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this provision, a principal executive officer of a federal agency includes: (i) the chief executive officer of the agency, or (ii) a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency (e.g., Regional Administrators of U.S. EPA). (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(3).).

3. All reports required by this Order and other information requested by the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

   a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(1));

   b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and

   c. The written authorization is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)

4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c).)

5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.3 above shall make the following certification:

   "I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my

inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations." (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

C. Monitoring Reports

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4).)
2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Central Valley Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)
3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order using test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Central Valley Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)
4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

D. Compliance Schedules

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this Order, shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting

1. The Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
    a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
    b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)
3. The Central Valley Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

F. Planned Changes

The Discharger shall give notice to the Central Valley Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in section 122.29(b) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or
2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are subject neither to effluent limitations in this Order nor to notification requirements under section 122.42(a)(1) (see Additional Provisions—Notification Levels VII.A.1). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(ii).)
3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 C.F.R.§ 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

G. Anticipated Noncompliance

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Central Valley Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this Order's requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

H. Other Noncompliance

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

I. Other Information

When the Discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Central Valley Water Board**,** State Water Board, or U.S. EPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT

A. The Central Valley Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS

A. Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW's)

All POTW's shall provide adequate notice to the Central Valley Water Board of the following (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)):

1. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger that would be subject to sections 301 or 306 of the CWA if it were directly discharging those pollutants (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(1)); and

2. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of adoption of the Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(2).)

3. Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW as well as any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(3).)

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ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)

The Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R. § 122.48) requires that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements that implement federal and California regulations.

I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS

A. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring locations specified below and, unless otherwise specified, before the monitored flow joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. Monitoring locations shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of the Central Valley Water Board.

B. Effluent samples shall be taken downstream of the last addition of wastes to the treatment or discharge works where a representative sample may be obtained prior to mixing with the receiving waters. Samples shall be collected at such a point and in such a manner to ensure a representative sample of the discharge.

C. Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses of any material required by this Order shall be conducted by a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water (DDW; formerly the Department of Public Health). Laboratories that perform sample analyses must be identified in all monitoring reports submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. In the event a certified laboratory is not available to the Discharger for any onsite field measurements such as pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), turbidity, temperature, and such analyses performed by a noncertified laboratory will be accepted provided a Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program is instituted by the laboratory. A manual containing the steps followed in this program for any onsite field measurements such as pH, DO, turbidity, temperature, and residual chlorine must be kept onsite in the treatment facility laboratory and shall be available for inspection by Central Valley Water Board staff. The Discharger must demonstrate sufficient capability (qualified and trained employees, properly calibrated and maintained field instruments, etc.) to adequately perform these field measurements. The Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program must conform to U.S. EPA guidelines or to procedures approved by the Central Valley Water Board.

D. Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary, at least yearly, to ensure their continued accuracy. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.

E. Monitoring results, including noncompliance, shall be reported at intervals and in a manner specified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.

F. Laboratories analyzing monitoring samples shall be certified by DDW, in accordance with the provision of Water Code section 13176, and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports.

G. The Discharger shall ensure that the results of the Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study or the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study are submitted annually to the State Water Resources Control Board at the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board Quality Assurance Program Officer
Office of Information Management and Analysis
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

H. The Discharger shall file with the Central Valley Water Board technical reports on self-monitoring performed according to the detailed specifications contained in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.

I. The results of all monitoring required by this Order shall be reported to the Central Valley Water Board, and shall be submitted in such a format as to allow direct comparison with the limitations and requirements of this Order. Unless otherwise specified, discharge flows shall be reported in terms of the monthly average and the daily maximum discharge flows.

II. MONITORING LOCATIONS

The Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
--	INF-001	A location where a representative sample of the Facility influent can be obtained, prior to any additives, treatment process, and plant return flows.
001	EFF-001	A location where a representative sample of the Facility effluent can be obtained prior to discharge to the receiving water. Latitude: 39° 12’ 19” N Longitude: 121° 4’ 9” W
--	RSW-001	In Wolf Creek, on the eastern bank, approximately 500 feet upstream of Discharge Point 001.
--	RSW-002	In Wolf Creek, on the western bank, approximately 1,000 feet downstream of Discharge Point 001.
--	BIO-001	A location where a representative sample of the biosolids can be obtained prior to removal from the Facility.
--	SPL-001	A location where a representative sample of the municipal water supply can be obtained.
--	FIL-001	Monitoring of the filter effluent to be measured immediately downstream of the filters prior to the ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection system.
--	UVS-001	A location where a representative sample of wastewater can be collected immediately upstream of the UV disinfection system.
--	UVS-002	A location where a representative sample of wastewater can be collected immediately downstream of the UV disinfection system.
--	BASIN-001	A location where a representative sample of the emergency storage/flow equalization basin can be obtained.

The North latitude and West longitude information in Table E-1 are approximate for administrative purposes.

III. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location INF-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor influent to the Facility at Monitoring Location INF-001 as follows:

Table E-2. Influent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite[1]	1/Week	[2]
pH	standard units	Meter	Continuous	[2]
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite[1]	1/Week	[2]

[1] 24-hour flow proportional composite.
[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136; or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location EFF-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor tertiary treated effluent at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as follows. If more than one analytical test method is listed for a given parameter, the Discharger must select from the listed methods and corresponding Minimum Level:

Table E-3. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20° C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite[1]	1/Week	[2]
	lbs/day	Calculate	1/Week	--
pH	standard units	Meter	Continuous[3,4]	[2]
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite[1]	1/Week	[2]
	lbs/day	Calculate	1/Week	--
Priority Pollutants				
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/Month	[2,5]
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/Month	[2,5,6]
Priority Pollutants and Other Constituents of Concern	See Section IX.E	See Section IX.E	See Section IX.E	[2,5]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	2/Week[3,7]	[2]
	lbs/day	Calculate	2/Week	--
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	Meter or Grab[8]	1/Day[9]	[2]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Week	[2]
Hardness, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[2]
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	2/Month[10]	[2]

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Nitrite Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	2/Month[10]	[2]
Nitrate Plus Nitrite, Total (as N)	mg/L	Calculate	2/Month	--
Temperature	°C	Grab	1/Day[3,4]	[2]
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[2]

[1] 24-hour flow proportional composite.

[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[3] pH and temperature shall be recorded at the time of ammonia sample collection.

[4] A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

[5] For priority pollutant constituents the reporting level shall be consistent with Sections 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (See Attachment E, Table E-9).

[6] Unfiltered methyl mercury and total mercury samples shall be taken using clean hands/dirty hands procedures, as described in U.S. EPA method 1669: Sampling Ambient Water for Trace Metals at EPA Water Quality Criteria Levels, for collection of equipment blanks (section 9.4.4.2), and shall be analyzed by U.S. EPA method 1630/1631 (Revision E) with a reporting limit of 0.05 ng/L for methyl mercury and 0.5 ng/L for total mercury.

[7] Concurrent with whole effluent toxicity monitoring.

[8] The Discharger may conduct continuous monitoring utilizing the existing metering equipment in lieu of the daily grab sample.

[9] Chlorine residual monitoring is required at a minimum of once per day when chlorine is used for maintenance purposes. In addition, if chlorine is scheduled to be used for maintenance purposes, the Discharger shall monitor chlorine residual one week prior to use and one week after the end of use. Monitoring is not required for the use of chlorinated potable water for filter backwashing. When chlorine or chlorine-containing products are not in use in the treatment process, the Discharger shall so state in the monthly self-monitoring report. After a calendar year following the effective date of the permit, total chlorine residual data will be reviewed to determine if continued monitoring is warranted. The Discharger may discontinue chlorine monitoring once a calendar year of non-detects is established.

[10] Monitoring for nitrite and nitrate shall be conducted concurrently.

V. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Acute Toxicity Testing. The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing acute toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following acute toxicity testing requirements:

1. *Monitoring Frequency* – The Discharger shall perform quarterly acute toxicity testing, concurrent with effluent ammonia sampling.

2. *Sample Types* – The Discharger may use flow-through or static renewal testing. For static renewal testing, the samples shall be grab samples and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at Monitoring Location EFF-001.

3. *Test Species* – Test species shall be fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).

4. *Methods* – The acute toxicity testing samples shall be analyzed using EPA-821-R-02-012, Fifth Edition. Temperature, and pH shall be recorded at the time of sample collection. No pH adjustment may be made unless approved by the Executive Officer.

5. *Test Failure* – If an acute toxicity test does not meet all test acceptability criteria, as specified in the test method, the Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, not to exceed 7 days following notification of test failure.

B. Chronic Toxicity Testing. The Discharger shall conduct three species chronic toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing chronic toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following chronic toxicity testing requirements:

1. *Monitoring Frequency* – The Discharger shall perform quarterly three species chronic toxicity testing.

2. *Sample Types* – Effluent samples shall be flow proportional 24-hour composites and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at Monitoring Location EFF-001. The receiving water control shall be a grab sample obtained from Monitoring Location RSW-001, as identified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.

3. *Sample Volumes* – Adequate sample volumes shall be collected to provide renewal water to complete the test in the event that the discharge is intermittent.

4. *Test Species* – Chronic toxicity testing measures sublethal (e.g., reduced growth, reproduction) and/or lethal effects to test organisms exposed to an effluent compared to that of the control organisms. The Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity tests with:

   a. The cladoceran, water flea, *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (survival and reproduction test);

   b. The fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* (larval survival and growth test); and

   c. The green alga, *Selenastrum capricornutum* (growth test).

5. Methods – The presence of chronic toxicity shall be estimated as specified in *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002.

6. Reference Toxicant – As required by the SIP, all chronic toxicity tests shall be conducted with concurrent testing with a reference toxicant and shall be reported with the chronic toxicity test results.

7. *Dilutions* – For routine and accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, it is not necessary to perform the test using a dilution series. The test may be performed using 100% effluent and one control. For TRE monitoring, the chronic toxicity testing shall be performed using the dilution series identified in Table E-4, below, unless an alternative dilution series is detailed in the submitted TRE Action Plan. A receiving water control or laboratory water control may be used as the diluent.

Table E-4. Chronic Toxicity Testing Dilution Series

Sample	Dilutions[1] (%)					Control
	100	75	50	25	12.5	
% Effluent	100	75	50	25	12.5	0
% Control Water	0	25	50	75	87.5	100

[1] Receiving water control or laboratory water control may be used as the diluent.

8. *Test Failure* – The Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, but no later than fourteen (14) days after receiving notification of a test failure. A test failure is defined as follows:

   a. The reference toxicant test or the effluent test does not meet all test acceptability criteria as specified in the *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002 (Method Manual), and its subsequent amendments or revisions; or

   b. The percent minimum significant difference (PMSD) measured for the test exceeds the upper PMSD bound variability criterion in Table 6 on page 52 of the Method Manual. (A retest is only required in this case if the test results do not exceed the monitoring trigger specified in the Special Provision at section VI.C.2.a.iii. of the Order.)

C. WET Testing Notification Requirements. The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board within 24-hours after the receipt of test results exceeding the monitoring trigger during regular or accelerated monitoring, or an exceedance of the acute toxicity effluent limitation.

D. WET Testing Reporting Requirements. All toxicity test reports shall include the contracting laboratory's complete report provided to the Discharger and shall be in accordance with the appropriate "Report Preparation and Test Review" sections of the method manuals. At a minimum, whole effluent toxicity monitoring shall be reported as follows:

1. **Chronic WET Reporting.** Regular chronic toxicity monitoring results shall be reported to the Central Valley Water Board within 30 days following completion of the test and shall contain, at minimum:

   a. The results expressed in TUc, measured as 100/NOEC, and also measured as 100/LC50, 100/EC25, 100/IC25, and 100/IC50, as appropriate.

   b. The statistical methods used to calculate endpoints;

   c. The statistical output page, which includes the calculation of the percent minimum significant difference (PMSD);

   d. The dates of sample collection and initiation of each toxicity test; and

   e. The results compared to the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger.

   Additionally, the monthly self-monitoring reports shall contain an updated chronology of chronic toxicity test results expressed in TUc, and organized by test species, type of test (survival, growth or reproduction), and monitoring frequency, i.e., either quarterly, monthly, accelerated, or Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE).

2. **Acute WET Reporting.** Acute toxicity test results shall be submitted with the monthly discharger self-monitoring reports and reported as percent survival.

3. **TRE or Toxicity Evaluation Study Reporting.** Reports for TRE's or a Toxicity Evaluation Study shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule contained in the Discharger's approved TRE Workplan, or as amended by the Discharger's TRE Action Plan.

4. **Quality Assurance (QA).** The Discharger must provide the following information for QA purposes:

a. Results of the applicable reference toxicant data with the statistical output page giving the species, NOEC, LOEC, type of toxicant, dilution water used, concentrations used, PMSD, and dates tested.

b. The reference toxicant control charts for each endpoint, which include summaries of reference toxicant tests performed by the contracting laboratory.

c. Any information on deviations or problems encountered and how they were dealt with.

VI. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – NOT APPLICABLE

VII. RECYCLING MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – NOT APPLICABLE

VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002

1. The Discharger shall monitor Wolf Creek at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002 as follows:

Table E-5. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Conventional Pollutants				
Fecal Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1/Quarter	[1]
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Priority Pollutants				
Priority Pollutants and Other Constituents of Concern	See Section IX.E	See Section IX.E	See Section IX.E[2]	[1,3]
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/ cm	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Hardness, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Temperature	°F	Grab	1/Month	[1]
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Month	[1]

[1] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

[2] Monitoring required at Monitoring Location RSW-001 only.

[3] For priority pollutant constituents the reporting level shall be consistent with Sections 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (See Attachment E, section IX.E).

IX. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Biosolids

1. Monitoring Location BIO-001

a. A composite sample of sludge shall be collected annually at Monitoring Location BIO-001 in accordance with EPA's *POTW Sludge Sampling and Analysis Guidance Document*, August 1989, and tested for Title 22 metals including antimony, arsenic,

barium, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, lead, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, silver, thallium, vanadium, zinc, and mercury.

b. A composite sample of sludge shall be collected once during the permit term at Monitoring Location BIO-001 in accordance with EPA's *POTW Sludge Sampling and Analysis Guidance Document*, August 1989, and tested for priority pollutants listed in 40 C.F.R. part 122, Appendix D, Tables II and III (excluding total phenols).

c. Biosolids monitoring shall be conducted using the methods in Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical methods (EPA publication SW-846), as required in 40 C.F.R. section 503.8(b)(4). All results must be reported on a 100% dry weight basis. Records of all analyses must state on each page of the laboratory report whether the results are expressed in "100% dry weight" or "as is."

d. Sampling records shall be retained for a minimum of **5 years**. A log shall be maintained of sludge quantities generated and of handling and disposal activities. The frequency of entries is discretionary; however, the log must be complete enough to serve as a basis for part of the annual report.

B. Municipal Water Supply

1. Monitoring Location SPL-001

a. The Discharger shall monitor the municipal water supply at Monitoring Location SPL-001 as follows.

Table E-6. Municipal Water Supply Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Total Dissolved Solids[1]	mg/L	Grab	1/Year	[2]
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C[1]	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Year	[2]

[1] If the water supply is from more than one source, the total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity shall be reported as a weighted average and include copies of supporting calculations.

[2] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

C. Flow Equalization Basin

1. Monitoring Location BASIN-001

a. The Discharger shall monitor the flow equalization basin at Monitoring Location BASIN-001 as follows:

Table E-7. Flow Equalization Basin Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Freeboard	Feet[1,2]	Grab	1/Week	--
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	1/Week	[3]
Odors	--	Grab	1/Week	--
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Week	[3]

[1] To be measured vertically to the lowest point of overflow.

[2] Include estimation of volume of wastewater in each pond.

[3] Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 C.F.R. part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

D. Filtration System and Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System

1. Monitoring Locations UVS-001, UVS-002 and FIL-001

a. The Discharger shall monitor the filtration system at Monitoring Location FIL-001 and the UV disinfection system at Monitoring Locations UVS-001 and UVS-002 as follows:

Table E-8. Filtration System and UV Disinfection System Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Monitoring Location	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Flow	MGD	Meter	UVS-001	Continuous[1]
Turbidity	NTU	Meter	FIL-001	Continuous[1,2]
UV Transmittance	Percent (%)	Meter	UVS-001	Continuous[1]
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100mL	Grab	UVS-002	3/Week

[1] For continuous analyzers, the Discharger shall report documented routine meter maintenance activities including date, time of day, and duration, in which the analyzer(s) is not in operation. If analyzer(s) fail to provide continuous monitoring for more than two hours and influent and/or effluent from the disinfection process is not diverted for retreatment, the Discharger shall obtain and report hourly manual and/or grab sample results. The Discharger shall not decrease power settings or reduce the number of UV lamp banks in operation while the continuous analyzers are out of service and water is being disinfected.

[2] Report daily average and maximum turbidity.

E. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization

1. **Monitoring.** Samples shall be collected quarterly from the effluent and semi-annually from the upstream receiving water (Monitoring Locations EFF-001 and RSW-001) and analyzed for the constituents listed in Table E-9, below. Quarterly effluent monitoring (4 consecutive samples, evenly distributed throughout the year) and semi-annual upstream receiving water monitoring (once during the period when flows from the Nevada Irrigation District are present and once during the period when flows from the Nevada Irrigation District are absent) shall be conducted during 2018. The results of such monitoring shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board with the monthly self-monitoring reports. Each individual monitoring event shall provide representative sample results for the effluent and upstream receiving water.

2. **Concurrent Sampling.** Effluent and receiving water sampling shall be performed at approximately the same time, on the same date.

3. **Sample Type.** All receiving water samples shall be taken as grab samples. Effluent samples shall be taken as described in Table E-9, below.

Table E-9. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
2- Chloroethyl vinyl ether	µg/L	Grab	1
Acrolein	µg/L	Grab	2
Acrylonitrile	µg/L	Grab	2
Benzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Bromoform	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Carbon Tetrachloride	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chloroform	µg/L	Grab	2

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
Chloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	Grab	2
Hexachlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	1
Hexachlorobutadiene	µg/L	Grab	1
Hexachloroethane	µg/L	Grab	1
Methyl bromide (Bromomethane)	µg/L	Grab	1
Naphthalene	µg/L	Grab	10
Parachlorometa cresol	µg/L	Grab	--
Tetrachloroethene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Toluene	µg/L	Grab	2
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	µg/L	Grab	1
Trichloroethene	µg/L	Grab	2
Vinyl chloride	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Methyl-tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	µg/L	Grab	--
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1-dichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1-dichloroethylene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2-dichloropropane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,3-dichloropropylene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	1
1,2-dichoroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,3-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,4-dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2-Benzanthracene	µg/L	Grab	5
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	µg/L	Grab	1
2-Chlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4-Dichlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4-Dimethylphenol	µg/L	Grab	2
2,4-Dinitrophenol	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4-Dinitrotoluene	µg/L	Grab	5
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	10
2,6-Dinitrotoluene	µg/L	Grab	5
2-Nitrophenol	µg/L	Grab	10
2-Chloronaphthalene	µg/L	Grab	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	µg/L	Grab	5
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	µg/L	Grab	5
4,6-Dinitro-2-methylphenol	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Nitrophenol	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether	µg/L	Grab	10
4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether	µg/L	Grab	5
Acenaphthene	µg/L	Grab	1
Acenaphthylene	µg/L	Grab	10
Anthracene	µg/L	Grab	10

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
Benzidine	µg/L	Grab	5
Benzo(a)pyrene (3,4-Benzopyrene)	µg/L	Grab	2
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	µg/L	Grab	5
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	µg/L	Grab	2
Bis(2-chloroethoxy) methane	µg/L	Grab	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	µg/L	Grab	1
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether	µg/L	Grab	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate[2]	µg/L	Grab	5
Butyl benzyl phthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Chrysene	µg/L	Grab	5
Di-n-butylphthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Di-n-octylphthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Dibenzo(a,h)-anthracene	µg/L	Grab	0.1
Diethyl phthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Dimethyl phthalate	µg/L	Grab	10
Fluoranthene	µg/L	Grab	10
Fluorene	µg/L	Grab	10
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	µg/L	Grab	5
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	µg/L	Grab	0.05
Isophorone	µg/L	Grab	1
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine	µg/L	Grab	1
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	µg/L	Grab	5
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine	µg/L	Grab	5
Nitrobenzene	µg/L	Grab	10
Pentachlorophenol	µg/L	Grab	1
Phenanthrene	µg/L	Grab	5
Phenol	µg/L	Grab	1
Pyrene	µg/L	Grab	10
Aluminum	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Antimony	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	5
Arsenic	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	10
Asbestos	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Beryllium	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	2
Cadmium	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
Chromium (III)	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	50
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	5
Copper	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	25
Cyanide[4]	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	5
Iron	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Lead	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
Mercury[4]	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Manganese	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Nickel	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	20
Selenium	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	5
Silver	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	1
Thallium	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	1
Zinc	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	20
4,4'-DDD	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.05
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.05
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level[1]
alpha-Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.02
alpha-Hexachlorocyclohexane (BHC)	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
Aldrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.005
beta-Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
beta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.005
Chlordane	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.1
delta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.005
Dieldrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
Endosulfan sulfate	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
Endrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
Endrin Aldehyde	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
Heptachlor	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.02
Lindane (gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane)	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1016	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1221	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1232	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1242	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1248	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1254	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
PCB-1260	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	0.5
Toxaphene	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Ammonia (as N)[4]	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Boron	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Chloride	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Flow[4]	MGD	Meter	--
Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)[4]	mg/L	Grab	--
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	µg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Mercury, Methyl	ng/L	Grab	--
Nitrate (as N)[4]	mg/L	Grab	--
Nitrite (as N)[4]	mg/L	Grab	--
pH[4]	Std Units	Grab	--
Phosphorus, Total (as P)	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Specific conductance (EC)[4]	µmhos/cm	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Sulfate	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Sulfide (as S)	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Sulfite (as SO_3)	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--
Temperature[4]	^oC	Grab	--
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)[4]	mg/L	24-hr Composite[3]	--

[1] The reporting levels required in this table for priority pollutant constituents are established based on Section 2.4.2 and Appendix 4 of the SIP.

[2] In order to verify if bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate is truly present, the Discharger shall take steps to assure that sample containers, sampling apparatus, and analytical equipment are not sources of the detected contaminant.

[3] 24-hour flow proportional composite.

[4] The Discharger is not required to conduct effluent monitoring for constituents that have already been sampled in a given month, as required in Table E-3, except for hardness, pH, and temperature, which shall be conducted concurrently with the effluent sampling.

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.
2. Upon written request of the Central Valley Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a summary monitoring report. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year(s).
3. **Compliance Time Schedules.** For compliance time schedules included in the Order, the Discharger shall submit to the Central Valley Water Board, on or before each compliance due date, the specified document or a written report detailing compliance or noncompliance with the specific date and task. If noncompliance is reported, the Discharger shall state the reasons for noncompliance and include an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by letter when it returns to compliance with the compliance time schedule.
4. The Discharger shall report to the Central Valley Water Board any toxic chemical release data it reports to the State Emergency Response Commission within 15 days of reporting the data to the Commission pursuant to section 313 of the "*Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act*" of 1986.

B. Self-Monitoring Reports (SMR's)

1. The Discharger shall electronically submit SMR's using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program Web site (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html). The CIWQS Web site will provide additional information for SMR submittal in the event there will be a planned service interruption for electronic submittal.
2. The Discharger shall report in the SMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections III through IX. The Discharger shall submit monthly SMR's including the results of all required monitoring using U.S. EPA-approved test methods or other test methods specified in this Order. SMR's are to include all new monitoring results obtained since the last SMR was submitted. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR.
3. Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

Table E-10. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On…	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Continuous	Permit effective date	All	Submit with monthly SMR
1/Day	Permit effective date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.	Submit with monthly SMR
1/Week	Permit effective date	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On…	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
2/Week	Permit effective date	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR
3/Week	Permit effective date	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR
1/Month	Permit effective date	1st day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	First day of second calendar month following month of sampling
2/Month	Permit effective date	1st day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	First day of second calendar month following month of sampling
1/Quarter	Permit effective date	1 January through 31 March 1 April through 30 June 1 July through 30 September 1 October through 31 December	1 May 1 August 1 November 1 February of following year
1/Year	Permit effective date	1 January through 31 December	1 February of following year

4. **Reporting Protocols.** The Discharger shall report with each sample result the applicable Reporting Level (RL) and the current laboratory's Method Detection Limit (MDL), as determined by the procedure in 40 C.F.R. part 136.

   The Discharger shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

   a. Sample results greater than or equal to the RL shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).

   b. Sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported.

      For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ. The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy (± a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.

   c. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or ND.

   d. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the Minimum Level (ML) value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.

5. **Multiple Sample Data.** When determining compliance with an AMEL, AWEL, or MDEL for priority pollutants and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those

cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.

b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

6. The Discharger shall submit SMR's in accordance with the following requirements:

a. The Discharger shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with interim and/or final effluent limitations. The Discharger is not required to duplicate the submittal of data that is entered in a tabular format within CIWQS. When electronic submittal of data is required and CIWQS does not provide for entry into a tabular format within the system, the Discharger shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.

b. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the SMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the WDR's; discuss corrective actions taken or planned; and the proposed time schedule for corrective actions. Identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation.

c. The Discharger shall attach all laboratory analysis sheets, including quality assurance/quality control information, with all its SMR's for which sample analyses were performed.

7. The Discharger shall submit in the SMR's calculations and reports in accordance with the following requirements:

a. **Average Dry Weather Flow.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the average dry weather flow for the effluent. The average dry weather flow shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.C and reported in the December SMR.

b. **Mass Loading Limitations**. For BOD_5, TSS, and ammonia, the Discharger shall calculate and report the mass loading (lbs/day) in the SMR's. The mass loading shall be calculated as follows:

Mass Loading (lbs/day) = Flow (MGD) x Concentration (mg/L) x 8.34

When calculating daily mass loading, the daily average flow and constituent concentration shall be used. For weekly average mass loading, the weekly average flow and constituent concentration shall be used. For monthly average mass loading, the monthly average flow and constituent concentration shall be used.

c. **Removal Efficiency (BOD_5 and TSS).** The Discharger shall calculate and report the percent removal of BOD_5 and TSS in the SMR's. The percent removal shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.A. of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

d. **Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the 7-day median of total coliform organisms for the effluent. The 7-day median of total coliform organisms shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.D of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

e. **Annual Mercury Mass Loading Effluent Limitations.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the total calendar year mercury mass loading for the effluent in the December SMR. The total calendar year annual mass loading shall be calculated as specified in section VII.B of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

f. **Dissolved Oxygen Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report monthly in the self-monitoring report: i) the dissolved oxygen concentration, ii) the percent of saturation in the main water mass, and iii) the 95th percentile dissolved oxygen concentration.

g. **Turbidity Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the turbidity increase in the receiving water applicable to the natural turbidity condition specified in Section V.A.17.a-e. of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

h. **Temperature Receiving Water Limitations**. The Discharger shall calculate and report the temperature increase in the receiving water based on the difference in temperature at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002.

C. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR's)

1. The Discharger shall electronically certify and submit Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) together with SMRs using Electronic Self-Monitoring Reports module eSMR 2.5 or any upgraded version. Electronic DMR submittal shall be in addition to electronic SMR submittal. Information about electronic DMR submittal is available at the DMR website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/discharge_monitoring.

D. Other Reports

1. **Special Study Reports and Progress Reports**. As specified in the Special Provisions contained in section VI of the Order, special study and progress reports shall be submitted in accordance with the following reporting requirements.

Table E-11. Reporting Requirements for Special Provisions Reports

Special Provision	Reporting Requirements
Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan, Annual Reports (Special Provision VI.C.3.a)	**1 February,** annually
Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan, Updated Plan (only submit if applicable - Special Provision VI.C.3.a)	**180 days prior to the Order expiration date**

2. The Discharger shall report the results of any special studies, acute and chronic toxicity testing, TRE/TIE, Toxicity Evaluation Study, PMP, and Pollution Prevention Plan required by Special Provisions – VI.C. The Discharger shall submit reports with the first monthly SMR scheduled to be submitted on or immediately following the report due date.

3. Within 60 days of permit adoption, the Discharger shall submit a report outlining reporting levels (RL's), method detection limits (MDL's), and analytical methods for the constituents listed in tables E-2, E-3, E-5, E-6, E-7, and E-8. In addition, no less than 6 months prior to conducting the effluent and receiving water characterization monitoring

required in Section IX.E, the Discharger shall submit a report outlining RL's, MDL's, and analytical methods for the constituents listed in Table E-9. The Discharger shall comply with the monitoring and reporting requirements for CTR constituents as outlined in section 2.3 and 2.4 of the SIP. The maximum required reporting levels for priority pollutant constituents shall be based on the Minimum Levels (ML's) contained in Appendix 4 of the SIP, determined in accordance with Section 2.4.2 and Section 2.4.3 of the SIP. In accordance with Section 2.4.2 of the SIP, when there is more than one ML value for a given substance, the Central Valley Water Board shall include as RL's, in the permit, all ML values, and their associated analytical methods, listed in Appendix 4 that are below the calculated effluent limitation. The Discharger may select any one of those cited analytical methods for compliance determination. If no ML value is below the effluent limitation, then the Central Valley Water Board shall select as the RL, the lowest ML value, and its associated analytical method, listed in Appendix 4 for inclusion in the permit. Table E-9 provides required maximum reporting levels in accordance with the SIP.

4. **Annual Operations Report.** By 1 February of each year, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer containing the following:

   a. The names, certificate grades, and general responsibilities of all persons employed at the Facility.

   b. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the plant for emergency and routine situations.

   c. A statement certifying when the flow meter(s) and other monitoring instruments and devices were last calibrated, including identification of who performed the calibration.

   d. A statement certifying whether the current operation and maintenance manual, and contingency plan, reflect the wastewater treatment plant as currently constructed and operated, and the dates when these documents were last revised and last reviewed for adequacy.

   e. The Discharger may also be requested to submit an annual report to the Central Valley Water Board with both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. Any such request shall be made in writing. The report shall discuss the compliance record. If violations have occurred, the report shall also discuss the corrective actions taken and planned to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

5. **Annual Pretreatment Reporting Requirements**. The Discharger shall submit annually a report to the Central Valley Water Board, with copies to U.S. EPA Region 9 and the State Water Board, describing the Discharger's pretreatment activities over the previous 12 months (1 January through 31 December). The Facility presently treats the discharge from a single categorical industrial user, down from three categorical industrial users in 2013. Following the submission of the initial annual Pretreatment Report on 28 February 2017, if the remaining categorical industrial user is in compliance with the Discharger's prescribed pretreatment requirements over the previous two years and the Facility has not violated effluent limitations due to the categorical industrial user's discharge over the two year period, then the Discharger may submit a letter to the Executive Officer for approval to discontinue Pretreatment Program Requirements. The request must certify the Facility is in compliance with pretreatment regulations and does not have the potential to cause a violation of this Order's conditions. In the event that the Discharger is not in compliance with any conditions or requirements of this Order,

including noncompliance with pretreatment audit/compliance inspection requirements, then the Discharger shall also include the reasons for noncompliance and state how and when the Discharger shall comply with such conditions and requirements.

Annual report shall be submitted by **28 February** and include at least the following items:

a. A summary of analytical results from representative, flow proportioned, 24-hour composite sampling of the POTW's influent and effluent for those pollutants U.S. EPA has identified under section 307(a) of the CWA which are known or suspected to be discharged by nondomestic users. This will consist of an annual full priority pollutant scan. The Discharger is not required to sample and analyze for asbestos. The Discharger shall submit the results of the annual priority pollutant scan electronically to the Central Valley Water Board using the State Water Board's CIWQS Program Website.

   Sludge shall be sampled during the same 24-hour period and analyzed for the same pollutants as the influent and effluent sampling and analysis. The sludge analyzed shall be a composite sample of a minimum of 12 discrete samples taken at equal time intervals over the 24-hour period. Wastewater and sludge sampling and analysis shall be performed at least annually. The Discharger shall also provide any influent, effluent or sludge monitoring data for nonpriority pollutants which may be causing or contributing to Interference, pass-through or adversely impacting sludge quality. Sampling and analysis shall be performed in accordance with the techniques prescribed in 40 C.F.R. part 136 and amendments thereto.

b. A discussion of Upset, Interference, or Pass-Through incidents, if any, at the treatment plant, which the Discharger knows or suspects were caused by nondomestic users of the POTW. The discussion shall include the reasons why the incidents occurred, the corrective actions taken and, if known, the name and address of, the nondomestic user(s) responsible. The discussion shall also include a review of the applicable pollutant limitations to determine whether any additional limitations, or changes to existing requirements, may be necessary to prevent Pass-Through, Interference, or noncompliance with sludge disposal requirements.

c. The cumulative number of nondomestic users that the Discharger has notified regarding Baseline Monitoring Reports and the cumulative number of nondomestic user responses.

d. An updated list of the Discharger's significant industrial users (SIU's) including their names and addresses, or a list of deletions, additions and SIU name changes keyed to a previously submitted list. The Discharger shall provide a brief explanation for each change. The list shall identify the SIU's subject to federal categorical standards by specifying which set(s) of standards are applicable to each SIU. The list shall indicate which SIU's, or specific pollutants from each industry, are subject to local limitations. Local limitations that are more stringent than the federal categorical standards shall also be identified.

e. The Discharger shall characterize the compliance status through the year of record of each SIU by employing the following descriptions:

   i. complied with baseline monitoring report requirements (where applicable);

   ii. consistently achieved compliance;

   iii. inconsistently achieved compliance;

iv. significantly violated applicable pretreatment requirements as defined by 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2)(vii);

v. complied with schedule to achieve compliance (include the date final compliance is required);

vi. did not achieve compliance and not on a compliance schedule; and

vii. compliance status unknown.

f. A report describing the compliance status of each SIU characterized by the descriptions in items iii through vii above shall be submitted for each calendar quarter by the first day of the second month following the end of the quarter. The report shall identify the specific compliance status of each such SIU and shall also identify the compliance status of the POTW with regards to audit/pretreatment compliance inspection requirements. If none of the aforementioned conditions exist, at a minimum, a letter indicating that all industries are in compliance and no violations or changes to the pretreatment program have occurred during the quarter must be submitted. The information required in the fourth quarter report shall be included as part of the annual report due every 28 February. This quarterly reporting requirement shall commence upon issuance of this Order.

g. A summary of the inspection and sampling activities conducted by the Discharger during the past year to gather information and data regarding the SIU's. The summary shall include:

i. The names and addresses of the SIU's subjected to surveillance and an explanation of whether they were inspected, sampled, or both and the frequency of these activities at each user; and

ii. The conclusions or results from the inspection or sampling of each industrial user.

h. The Discharger shall characterize the compliance status of each SIU by providing a list or table which includes the following information:

i. Name of SIU;

ii. Category, if subject to federal categorical standards;

iii. The type of wastewater treatment or control processes in place;

iv. The number of samples taken by the POTW during the year;

v. The number of samples taken by the SIU during the year;

vi. For an SIU subject to discharge requirements for total toxic organics, whether all required certifications were provided;

vii. A list of the standards violated during the year. Identify whether the violations were for categorical standards or local limits.

viii. Whether the facility is in significant noncompliance (SNC) as defined at 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2)(viii) at any time during the year; and

ix. A summary of enforcement or other actions taken during the year to return the SIU to compliance. Describe the type of action (e.g., warning letters or notices of violation, administrative orders, civil actions, and criminal actions), final compliance date, and the amount of fines and penalties collected, if any. Describe any proposed actions for bringing the SIU into compliance;

x. Restriction of flow to the POTW.

xi. Disconnection from discharge to the POTW.

i. A brief description of any programs the POTW implements to reduce pollutants from nondomestic users that are not classified as SIU's;

j. A brief description of any significant changes in operating the pretreatment program which differ from the previous year including, but not limited to, changes concerning: the program's administrative structure, local limits, monitoring program or monitoring frequencies, legal authority, enforcement policy, funding levels, or staffing levels;

k. A summary of the annual pretreatment budget, including the cost of pretreatment program functions and equipment purchases; and

l. A summary of activities to involve and inform the public of the program including a copy of the newspaper notice, if any, required under 40 C.F.R. section 403.8(f)(2)(viii).

Pretreatment Program reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and the:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
1001 I Street or P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812

and the

Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency WTR-5
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

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ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

As described in section II.B of this Order, the Central Valley Water Board incorporates this Fact Sheet as findings of the Central Valley Water Board supporting the issuance of this Order. This Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this Order.

This Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for Dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this Order that are specifically identified as "not applicable" have been determined not to apply to this Discharger. Sections or subsections of this Order not specifically identified as "not applicable" are fully applicable to this Discharger.

I. PERMIT INFORMATION

The following table summarizes administrative information related to the Facility.

Table F-1. Facility Information

WDID	5A290100001
CIWQS Facility Place ID	227817
Discharger	City of Grass Valley
Name of Facility	City of Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address	556C Freeman Lane
	Grass Valley, CA 95945
	Nevada County
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Tim Kiser, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, (530) 274-4351
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Tim Kiser, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, (530) 274-4351
Mailing Address	125 E. Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Billing Address	Same as Mailing Address
Type of Facility	Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
Major or Minor Facility	Major
Threat to Water Quality	2
Complexity	A
Pretreatment Program	Yes
Recycling Requirements	Not Applicable
Facility Permitted Flow	2.78 million gallons per day (MGD), average dry weather flow
Facility Design Flow	2.78 MGD, average dry weather flow
Watershed	Bear River Watershed
Receiving Water	Wolf Creek
Receiving Water Type	Inland Surface Water

A. The City of Grass Valley (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the City of Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereinafter Facility), a (POTW).

For the purposes of this Order, references to the "discharger" or "permittee" in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

B. The Facility discharges wastewater to Wolf Creek, a water of the United States, tributary to the Bear River, within the Bear River Watershed. The Discharger was previously regulated by Order R5-2009-0067 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0079898 adopted on 12 June 2009 and expired on 12 June 2014. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. The State Water Board retains the jurisdictional authority to enforce such requirements under Water Code section 1211.

C. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge (ROWD) and submitted an application for reissuance of its WDR's and NPDES permit in December 2013. The application was deemed complete on 12 May 2014. A site visit was conducted on 16 July 2015 to observe operations and collect additional data to develop permit limitations and requirements for waste discharge.

II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Discharger provides sewerage service for the community of Grass Valley and serves a population of approximately 12,100. The design daily average flow capacity of the Facility is 2.78 million gallons per day (MGD).

An abandoned mine portal (Drew Tunnel), owned by Newmont USA Limited, was exposed on the Discharger's property during excavation for a chlorine contact chamber in 2000. Drainage from the mine had been surfacing and was pumped to the Facility for treatment. On 30 September 2014, Newmont removed the Drew Tunnel discharge flow from treatment at the Facility and temporarily rerouted it to a green sand/multimedia water treatment system for treatment prior to discharging it to Wolf Creek. Newmont is in the process of constructing a permanent system to treat the mine discharge. The Facility is currently configured to accept Drew Tunnel Discharge water if there is a failure at the temporary treatment system.

A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls

The treatment system at the Facility consists of bar screening, primary sedimentation, activated sludge (including nitrification and denitrification), secondary clarification, filtration, and ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection before being discharged to Wolf Creek through a cascade aerator and stream-side rock pile diffuser. Two lined equalization basins provide temporary storage for excess flow.

Biosolids are treated by an anaerobic digester, solar dried before further dewatering using a belt filter press, and disposed of through land application by Synagro West, LLC.

B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

1. The Facility is located in Assessor's Parcel Number 29-290-26, T15N, R3E, MDB&M, as shown in Attachment B, a part of this Order.
2. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged at Discharge Point 001 to Wolf Creek, a water of the United States, at a point latitude 39° 12' 19" N and longitude 121° 04' 10" W.

C. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data

Effluent limitations contained in Order R5-2009-0067 for discharges from Discharge Point 001 (Monitoring Location EFF-001) and representative monitoring data from the term of Order R5-2009-0067 are as follows:

Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (February 2012 – January 2015)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	8	6.9	8
	lbs/day[1]	230	350	500	108	132	148
	% Removal	85	--	--	95[2]	--	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	5.8	8.8	17.6
	lbs/day[1]	230	350	500	104	156	308
	% Removal	85	--	--	95[2]	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	6.5 – 8.0	--	--	6.5 – 7.97
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	0.41	--	0.97	<0.06	--	<0.06
	lbs/day[1]	0.0095	--	0.022	<0.0006	--	<0.0006
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	4.1	--	9.0	4.3	--	6.6
	lbs/day[1]	0.095	--	0.21	NR	--	NR
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	0.56	--	1.2	0.3	--	0.3
	lbs/day[1]	0.013	--	0.028	0.004	--	0.004
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	0.05	--	--	0.00694	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	0.0011	--	--	0.00034	--	--
	lbs/year	0.068[3]	--	--	0.024	--	--
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.6	--	5.5	1.44	--	5.95
	lbs/day[1]	37	--	128	12	--	120
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	[4]	--	--	497[5]	--	--
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	50[6]	--	--	19.8[5]	--	--
Methylene Active Blue Substances	µg/L	500	500[6]	--	0.238	0.082[5]	--
	lbs/day[1]	12	--	--	NR	--	--
Nitrate plus Nitrite, Total (as N)	mg/L	10	--	--	15.5	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	232	--	--	230	--	--
Nitrite, Total (as N)	mg/L	1	--	--	0.08	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	23	--	--	0.69	--	--
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/ 100 mL	--	2.2[7]	23[8]/240[9]	--	--	17
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	0.01[10]	--	0.02[11]	NR	--	NR
Acute Toxicity	% Survival	--	--	70[12]/90[13]	--	--	90[14]
Chronic Toxicity	TUc	--	--	[15]	--	--	8
Average Dry Weather Flow	MGD	--	--	2.78[16]	--	--	8.75[17]

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (February 2012 – January 2015)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge

NR = Not Reported

[1] Based on design average dry weather flow of 2.78 MGD.
[2] Lowest monthly percent removal.
[3] The effluent mass mercury loading to Wolf Creek shall not exceed 0.068 pounds as a twelve month running average.
[4] The annual average effluent electrical conductivity shall not exceed the municipal water supply electrical conductivity plus an increment of 500 µmhos/cm or 700 µmhos/cm, whichever is less.
[5] Maximum observed annual average.
[6] Applied as an annual average.
[7] Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.
[8] Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.
[9] Applied as an instantaneous maximum effluent limitation.
[10] Applied as a 4-day average effluent limitation.
[11] Applied as a 1-hour average effluent limitation.
[12] Minimum reported for any one bioassay.
[13] Median for any three consecutive bioassays.
[14] Lowest reported percent survival.
[15] There shall be no chronic toxicity in the effluent discharge.
[16] The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 2.78 MGD.
[17] Represents the maximum observed average daily flow.

D. Compliance Summary

1. The Central Valley Water Board issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R5-2012-0566 on 4 December 2012 which proposed to assess a civil liability of $110,850 against the Discharger for the discharge of raw sewage that occurred on 19 March 2012 and lasted for 2.5 days. The Discharger settled the ACL by completion of enhanced compliance action.

E. Planned Changes

The City does not currently have planned changes to the Facility.

III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

The requirements contained in this Order are based on the requirements and authorities described in this section.

A. Legal Authorities

This Order serves as WDR's pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260). This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this Facility to surface waters.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA, (commencing with section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.

C. State and Federal Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Plans

1. **Water Quality Control Plans.** Requirements of this Order specifically implement the applicable Water Quality Control Plans.

   a. **Basin Plan.** The Central Valley Water Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan, Fourth Edition (revised October 2011), for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (hereinafter Basin Plan) that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. Requirements in this Order implement the Basin Plan.

   The Basin Plan at II-2.00 states that the beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams. The Basin Plan in Table II-1, Section II, does not specifically identify beneficial uses for Wolf Creek, but does identify present and potential uses for the Bear River, to which Wolf Creek is tributary. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. Thus, beneficial uses applicable to Wolf Creek are as follows:

Table F-3. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001	Wolf Creek	Existing: Municipal and domestic water supply (MUN); agricultural supply including irrigation and stock watering (AGR); hydropower generation (POW); water contact recreation (REC-1); non-contact water recreation (REC-2); warm freshwater habitat (WARM); cold freshwater habitat (COLD); and wildlife habitat (WILD). Potential: Cold and warm migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR); and cold and warm spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN).

2. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** U.S. EPA adopted the NTR on 22 December 1992, and later amended it on 4 May 1995 and 9 November 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On 18 May 2000, U.S. EPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on 13 February 2001. These rules contain federal water quality criteria for priority pollutants.

3. **State Implementation Policy.** On 2 March 2000, the State Water Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP became effective on 28 April 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the U.S. EPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Central Valley Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on 18 May 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the U.S. EPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on 24 February 2005, that became effective on 13 July 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.

4. **Antidegradation Policy.** Federal regulation 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 requires that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution 68-16 ("*Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California*"). Resolution 68-16 is deemed to incorporate the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Central Valley Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies. The permitted discharge must be consistent with the antidegradation provision of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16.

5. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(l) restrict backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed.

6. **Domestic Water Quality.** In compliance with Water Code section 106.3, it is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This Order promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

7. **Endangered Species Act Requirements.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state. The Discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

8. **Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.** Section 13263.6(a) of the Water Code, requires that *"the Regional Water Board shall prescribe effluent limitations as part of the waste discharge requirements of a POTW for all substances that the most recent toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) (EPCRA) indicate as discharged into the POTW, for which the State Water Board or the Regional Water Board has established numeric water quality objectives, and has determined that the discharge is or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to, an excursion above any numeric water quality objective"*.

   The most recent toxic chemical data report does not indicate any reportable off-site releases or discharges to the collection system for this Facility. Therefore, a reasonable potential analysis (RPA) based on information from EPCRA cannot be conducted. Based on information from EPCRA, there is no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above any numeric water quality objectives included within the Basin Plan or in any State Water Board plan, so no effluent limitations are included in this permit pursuant to Water Code section 13263.6(a).

   However, as detailed elsewhere in this Order, available effluent data indicate that there are constituents present in the effluent that have a reasonable potential to cause or

contribute to exceedances of water quality standards and require inclusion of effluent limitations based on federal and state laws and regulations.

9. **Storm Water Requirements.** U.S. EPA promulgated federal regulations for storm water on 16 November 1990 in 40 C.F.R. parts 122, 123, and 124. The NPDES Industrial Storm Water Program regulates storm water discharges from wastewater treatment facilities. Wastewater treatment plants are applicable industries under the storm water program and are obligated to comply with the federal regulations. The Discharger has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) and been approved for coverage under the State Water Board's Industrial Storm water General Order. Therefore, this Order does not regulate storm water.

D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List

1. Under section 303(d) of the 1972 CWA, states, territories and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of water quality limited segments. The waters on these lists do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology. On 11 October 2011 U.S. EPA gave final approval to California's 2008-2010 section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments. The Basin Plan references this list of Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs), which are defined as "…*those sections of lakes, streams, rivers or other fresh water bodies where water quality does not meet (or is not expected to meet) water quality standards even after the application of appropriate limitations for point sources* (40 C.F.R. part 130, et seq.)." The Basin Plan also states, "*Additional treatment beyond minimum federal standards will be imposed on dischargers to [WQLSs]. Dischargers will be assigned or allocated a maximum allowable load of critical pollutants so that water quality objectives can be met in the segment*." The listing for Wolf Creek includes fecal coliform.

2. **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's).** U.S. EPA requires the Central Valley Water Board to develop TMDL's for each 303(d) listed pollutant and water body combination. Table F-4, below, identifies the 303(d) listings and the status of each TMDL.

Table F-4. 303 (d) List for Wolf Creek

Pollutant	Potential Sources	Proposed TMDL Completion
Fecal Coliform	Source Unknown	2019

3. The 303(d) listings and TMDL's have been considered in the development of the Order. A pollutant-by-pollutant evaluation of each pollutant of concern is described in section VI.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

E. Other Plans, Policies and Regulations

1. **Title 27.** The discharge authorized herein and the treatment and storage facilities associated with the discharge of treated municipal wastewater, except for discharges of residual sludge and solid waste, are exempt from the requirements of Title 27, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 20005 *et seq* (hereafter Title 27). The exemption, pursuant to Title 27 CCR section 20090(a), is based on the following:

   a. The waste consists primarily of domestic sewage and treated effluent;

   b. The waste discharge requirements are consistent with water quality objectives; and

   c. The treatment and storage facilities described herein are associated with a municipal wastewater treatment plant.

IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

Effluent limitations and toxic and pretreatment effluent standards established pursuant to sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 304 (Information and Guidelines), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the CWA and amendments thereto are applicable to the discharge.

The CWA mandates the implementation of effluent limitations that are as stringent as necessary to meet water quality standards established pursuant to state or federal law [33 U.S.C., §1311(b)(1)(C); 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)]. NPDES permits must incorporate discharge limits necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met. This requirement applies to narrative criteria as well as to criteria specifying maximum amounts of particular pollutants. Pursuant to federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1)(i), NPDES permits must contain limits that control all pollutants that "*are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any state water quality standard, including state narrative criteria for water quality*." Federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1)(vi), further provide that "[*w]here a state has not established a water quality criterion for a specific chemical pollutant that is present in an effluent at a concentration that causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above a narrative criterion within an applicable State water quality standard, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits*."

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations in the Code of Federal Regulations: 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards; and 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d) requires that permits include WQBEL's to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water where numeric water quality objectives have not been established. The Basin Plan at page IV-17.00, contains an implementation policy, "*Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives,*" that specifies that the Central Valley Water Board "*will, on a case-by-case basis, adopt numerical limitations in orders which will implement the narrative objectives*." This Policy complies with 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1). With respect to narrative objectives, the Central Valley Water Board must establish effluent limitations using one or more of three specified sources, including: (1) U.S. EPA's published water quality criteria, (2) a proposed state criterion (i.e., water quality objective) or an explicit state policy interpreting its narrative water quality criteria (i.e., the Central Valley Water Board's "*Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives*")(40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)(vi)(A), (B) or (C)), or (3) an indicator parameter.

The Basin Plan includes numeric site-specific water quality objectives and narrative objectives for toxicity, chemical constituents, discoloration, radionuclides, and tastes and odors. The narrative toxicity objective states: "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at III-8.00). The Basin Plan states that material and relevant information, including numeric criteria, and recommendations from other agencies and scientific literature will be utilized in evaluating compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. The narrative chemical constituents objective states that waters shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses. At minimum, "…*water designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs)*" in Title 22 of the CCR. The Basin Plan further states that, to protect all beneficial uses, the Central Valley Water Board may apply limits more stringent than MCL's. The narrative tastes and odors objective states: "*Water shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to domestic or*

municipal water supplies or to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses."

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. **Prohibition III.A (No discharge or application of waste other than that described in this Order).** This prohibition is based on Water Code section 13260 that requires filing of a ROWD before discharges can occur. The Discharger submitted a ROWD for the discharges described in this Order; therefore, discharges not described in this Order are prohibited.

2. **Prohibition III.B (No bypasses or overflow of untreated wastewater, except under the conditions at CFR section 122.41(m)(4)).** As stated in section I.G of Attachment D, Standard Provisions, this Order prohibits bypass from any portion of the treatment facility. Federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.41(m), define "bypass" as the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. This section of the federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.41(m)(4), prohibits bypass unless it is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage. In considering the Regional Water Board's prohibition of bypasses, the State Water Board adopted a precedential decision, Order No. WQO 2002-0015, which cites the federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. section 122.41(m), as allowing bypass only for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.

3. **Prohibition III.C (No controllable condition shall create a nuisance).** This prohibition is based on Water Code section 13050 that requires water quality objectives established for the prevention of nuisance within a specific area. The Basin Plan prohibits conditions that create a nuisance.

4. **Prohibition III.D (No inclusion of pollutant free wastewater shall cause improper operation of the Facility's systems).** This prohibition is based on 40 C.F.R. section 122.41 et seq. that requires the proper design and operation of treatment facilities.

B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing U.S. EPA permit regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Secondary Treatment Standards at 40 C.F.R. part 133.

Regulations promulgated in 40 C.F.R. section 125.3(a)(1) require technology-based effluent limitations for municipal Dischargers to be placed in NPDES permits based on Secondary Treatment Standards or Equivalent to Secondary Treatment Standards.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-500) established the minimum performance requirements for POTW's [defined in section 304(d)(1)]. Section 301(b)(1)(B) of that Act requires that such treatment works must, as a minimum, meet effluent limitations based on secondary treatment as defined by the U.S. EPA Administrator.

Based on this statutory requirement, U.S. EPA developed secondary treatment regulations, which are specified in 40 C.F.R. part 133. These technology-based regulations apply to all municipal wastewater treatment plants and identify the minimum

level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment in terms of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5), total suspended solids (TSS), and pH.

2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

a. **BOD_5 and TSS.** Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 133, establish the minimum weekly and monthly average level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment for BOD_5 and TSS. A daily maximum effluent limitation for BOD_5 and TSS is also included in the Order to ensure that the treatment works are not organically overloaded and operate in accordance with design capabilities. In addition, 40 C.F.R. section 133.102, in describing the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment, states that the 30-day average percent removal shall not be less than 85 percent. This Order contains a limitation requiring an average of 85 percent removal of BOD_5 and TSS over each calendar month. This Order requires WQBEL's that are equal to or more stringent than the secondary technology-based treatment described in 40 C.F.R. part 133 (See section IV.C.3.b.v of the Fact Sheet for a discussion on Pathogens which includes WQBEL's for BOD_5 and TSS.)

b. **Flow.** The Facility was designed to provide a tertiary level of treatment for up to a design flow of 2.78 MGD. Therefore, this Order contains an average dry weather discharge flow effluent limit of 2.78 MGD.

c. **pH.** The secondary treatment regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 133 also require that pH be maintained between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units. This Order, however, requires more stringent WQBEL's for pH to comply with the Basin Plan's water quality objectives for pH.

Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001

Table F-5. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Flow	MGD	2.78[1]	--	--	--	--
Conventional Pollutants						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)[2]	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
	lbs/day[3]	700	1,040	--	--	--
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--
pH[2]	standard units	--	--	--	6.0	9.0
Total Suspended Solids[2]	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
	lbs/day[3]	700	1,040	--	--	--
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--

1 The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 2.78 MGD.
2 Note that more stringent WQBEL's for BOD_5, pH, and TSS are applicable and are established as final effluent limitations in this Order (see section IV.C.3.b.v of this Fact Sheet).
3 Based on an average dry weather flow of 2.78 MGD.

C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBEL's)

1. Scope and Authority

CWA Section 301(b) and 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where

necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards. This Order contains requirements, expressed as a technology equivalence requirement, more stringent than secondary treatment requirements that are necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The rationale for these requirements, which consist of tertiary treatment or equivalent requirements or other provisions, is discussed in section VI.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

Section 122.44(d)(1)(i) of 40 C.F.R. requires that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, WQBEL's must be established using: (1) U.S. EPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in section 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBEL's when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply.

The Basin Plan on page II-1.00 states: "*Protection and enhancement of existing and potential beneficial uses are primary goals of water quality planning…*" and with respect to disposal of wastewaters states that "...*disposal of wastewaters is [not] a prohibited use of waters of the State; it is merely a use which cannot be satisfied to the detriment of beneficial uses.*"

The federal CWA section 101(a)(2), states: "*it is the national goal that wherever attainable, an interim goal of water quality which provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreation in and on the water be achieved by July 1, 1983.*" Federal Regulations, developed to implement the requirements of the CWA, create a rebuttable presumption that all waters be designated as fishable and swimmable. Federal Regulations, 40 CFR sections 131.2 and 131.10, require that all waters of the State regulated to protect the beneficial uses of public water supply, protection and propagation of fish, shell fish and wildlife, recreation in and on the water, agricultural, industrial and other purposes including navigation. 40 C.F.R. section 131.3(e) defines existing beneficial uses as those uses actually attained after 28 November 1975, whether or not they are included in the water quality standards. Federal Regulation, 40 C.F.R. section 131.10 requires that uses be obtained by implementing effluent limitations, requires that all downstream uses be protected and states that in no case shall a state adopt waste transport or waste assimilation as a beneficial use for any waters of the United States.

a. **Receiving Water and Beneficial Uses.** Wolf Creek is a perennial creek that receives flow from the Nevada Irrigation District (NID). The headwater for Wolf Creek is at Banner Mountain and it flows approximately 25 miles to its confluence with the Bear River within the Bear River watershed. Refer to III.C.1 above for a complete description of the receiving water beneficial uses.

b. **Effluent and Ambient Background Data.** The RPA, as described in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet, was based on data from February 2012 through January 2015, which includes effluent and ambient background data submitted in SMR's. Priority pollutant scans from December 2011, February 2012, May 2012, and August 2012 were also included in the analysis.

c. **Water Effect Ratio (WER) Study.** In February 2008, the Discharger submitted the *Copper and Zinc Water-Effect Ratio Study* to the Central Valley Water Board. The Discharger's study followed U.S. EPA's *Interim Guidance on Determination and Use of Water-Effect Ratios for Metals* (EPA 823-B-94-001) to develop a WER for zinc and U.S. EPA's 2001 *Streamlined Water-Effect Ratio Procedure for Discharges of Copper* (EPA 822-R-01-005) to develop a WER for copper. Following the U.S. EPA interim guidance, three separate sets of samples were evaluated to assess ambient conditions and to calculate freshwater copper and zinc WER's using the primary test species, *Ceriodaphnia dubia*. Because the 1994 Interim Guidance and the streamlined procedure recommend calculating final WER's using a geometric mean of the WER's determined for each sample, the Discharger determined that geometric means were the most appropriate method for calculating the final WER. Based on the results of the study, the Discharger concluded that a WER for copper of 6.49 and a WER for zinc of 1.70, based on effluent data, were applicable to the discharge to Wolf Creek.

Upon review, the Central Valley Water Board identified several deficiencies with the report including 1) the lack of samples indicating potential differences in water quality to the presence of irrigation water; 2) the lack of detail to verify that testing using fathead minnows confirmed that *Ceriodaphnia dubia* was appropriately conservative for development of the WER for zinc; 3) methods for calculating the final WER for zinc did not appear to follow the 1994 Interim Guidance as it did not take into account any effects from the various flow regimes at the time of sample collection, and; 4) no raw toxicity test data was presented in the report. The Central Valley Water Board issued their findings to the Discharger on 20 October 2008, to which the Discharger submitted a response on 23 October 2008. The Discharger clarified that the selection of sampling events intentionally did not include the summer period because summer flows in Wolf Creek are typically elevated due to the presence of flows released from Nevada Irrigation District (NID) reservoirs, and the low flow period in Wolf Creek normally occurs from October through December. The Discharger stated further that the differences in water quality during high and low flow regimes was of little concern in the selection of final WER values given that the WER values selected were based on effluent data. The Discharger submitted the toxicity test results for the confirmatory tests using the fathead minnow and the toxicity test results and raw test data for all sampling events.

Based on the new information and data, the concerns of Central Valley Water Board staff were addressed and the study results were utilized in the RPA for Order R5-2009-0067. Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, the WER's were used to calculate the water quality criteria for copper and zinc for the RPA for this Order. Based on the results of the RPA, effluent limitations for copper and zinc are not necessary.

d. **Translators.** The CTR contains aquatic life criteria for arsenic, cadmium, chromium III, chromium VI, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc which are presented in dissolved concentrations. In the absence of site-specific translators, U.S. EPA recommends conversion factors to translate dissolved concentrations to total concentrations. The default U.S. EPA conversion factors contained in Appendix 3 of the SIP were used to convert the applicable dissolved criteria to total recoverable criteria for all metals except for copper and zinc.

In February 2008, the Discharger submitted the Development and Selection of Translators for Copper, Lead, and Zinc in Wolf Creek to the Central Valley Water Board. The Discharger's study followed U.S. EPA's The Metals Translator: Guidance for Calculating a Total Recoverable Permit Limit from a Dissolved Criterion (EPA 823-B-96-007) to develop translators for copper, lead, and zinc. The U.S. EPA guidance recommends two methods for calculating metal translators. The direct-ratio method is based on measured ratios of dissolved to total recoverable metals in the downstream receiving water outside the mixing zone. The second method is to be used if the translator is found to be dependent on TSS and involves regression equations relating the fraction of the dissolved metal to TSS. Because TSS was not detected in many of the samples collected during the study, a meaningful TSS regression analysis could not be performed, and the direct-ratio method was used to develop the translators. Although U.S. EPA recommends that that translators be calculated as the average of the low flow values, or as the 95th percentile highest dissolved fraction for all samples, the SIP requires that the median of ambient values be used to develop the translator for chronic criteria and that the 90th percentile highest dissolved fraction be used to develop the translator for acute criteria. Based on the results of the study, the Discharger concluded that the following translators for copper, lead, and zinc were applicable to the discharge to Wolf Creek:

Table F-6. Proposed Metal Translators

Parameter	Translator (1/fD)	
	Acute	Chronic
Copper	1.06	1.27
Lead	2.86	4.0
Zinc	1.04	1.28

Upon review of the Discharger's report, the Central Valley Water Board identified several deficiencies, including the influence of stream flow on the relationship between total and dissolved metal concentrations, the data used in deriving the lead translator, and the number of samples collected. In the Discharger's Infeasibility Report, dated 16 September 2008, the Discharger responded to the Central Valley Water Board concerning the translator study. Consistent with the Discharger's approach for the WER study, the samples collected for the translator study were intentionally selected to be reflective of the low flow conditions in Wolf Creek. Upon review of the flow data used to derive the translators, the Discharger determined that all of the samples collected were representative of critical low flow conditions with the exception of the sampling event that occurred when the flow was at 55 MGD. When the sample data collected at 55 MGD was excluded from the dataset, there did not appear to be a strong relationship between flow and translator values. In response to concerns regarding lead data, the Discharger stated that the proposed translator was based on nine sample events and was conservatively

calculated using the non-detect level for dissolved lead when dissolved lead was not detected. Thus, the Discharger requested that the data collected and reported in the report be determined adequate by the Central Valley Water Board.

The Central Valley Water Board reviewed the Discharger's response and provided the findings in a memo dated 19 September 2008. In the review, the Central Valley Water Board noted that the analysis of reported flows and translators for each sampling date demonstrated a negative relationship between flow and the translators for copper and lead, and pointed out that the study did not meet the minimum, recommended number of sampling events when using data under all flow conditions. The Discharger submitted a response on 23 October 2008. The discrepancy between the Central Valley Water Board's and Discharger's analyses was the exclusion of the highest flow event of 55 MGD. With the exclusion of the highest flow event of 55 MGD, a slightly negative relationship between flow and translator values was observed. The historic observed flows in Wolf Creek range from 2 MGD to 718 MGD, with an average of 26 MGD. To distinguish between high and low flow regimes, the Discharger revised the translator calculations to include data where flows are less than 26 MGD, which represents a more conservative approach than using all samples collected during the low flow season. Ten samples were collected at flows below 26 MGD, which satisfies the recommended sample requirement in U.S. EPA guidance. Based on the revised dataset, the Discharger proposed the following translator values:

Table F-7. Revised Metal Translators

Parameter	Translator (1/fD)	
	Acute	Chronic
Copper	1.05	1.19
Zinc	1.03	1.19

Based on the new information and data, the concerns of Central Valley Water Board staff were addressed for copper and zinc, and the study results were utilized in the RPA for Order R5-2009-0067. Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, the translators were used for the RPA for this Order. Based on the results of the RPA, effluent limitations for copper and zinc are not necessary.

For lead, the Discharger acknowledged that the study did not satisfy the recommended minimum number of translator samples, but pointed out that it was apparent that dissolved lead does not have a large ambient presence in the system or that collection of additional samples would likely produce more detected results. Using the conservative assumption that the lead concentration is equal to the detection limit for non-detected samples in the translator calculations, it is assumed that the actual dissolved lead concentration would be lower than the assumed value at the detection limit. Thus, the resulting lead translators are slightly higher than they would be if lower detection limits were achieved. The Central Valley Water Board acknowledges that use of the detection limit for non-detected values is a conservative approach; however, the translators for lead have not been approved. The nine sampling events used to develop the lead translator occurred during high (>26 MGD) and low (<26 MGD) flow regimes. The minimum recommended number of sampling events for developing a translator with data from all flow regimes is 20, which is not satisfied by the Discharger's dataset. If the dataset were revised to exclude sampling events taken when flows in Wolf Creek exceeded 26 MGD, the dataset would consist of only six valid sampling events, which does not satisfy the

minimum number of sampling events necessary to calculate a translator with sampling events taken during low flow regimes. Regardless of the use of the translator, copper, lead, and zinc do not exhibit reasonable potential to exceed the CTR criteria and effluent limitations have not been included in this Order.

e. **Assimilative Capacity/Mixing Zone.** The Facility discharges into Wolf Creek, a low-flow perennial stream in Nevada County. The lowest 1-day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in 10 years (1Q10) and the lowest average 7 consecutive day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in 10 years (7Q10) were calculated for Wolf Creek, the 1Q10 and 7Q10 were 1.2 MGD and 1.49 MGD, respectively. The maximum observed flow during the past 10 years in Wolf Creek was 718 MGD. Although dilution may be available, in the absence of a site-specific dilution/mixing zone study, the worst-case dilution is assumed to be zero to provide protection for the receiving water beneficial uses. The impact of assuming zero assimilative capacity within the receiving water is that discharge limitations are end-of-pipe limits with no allowance for dilution within the receiving water.

f. **Hardness-Dependent CTR Metals Criteria.** The CTR and the NTR contain water quality criteria for seven metals that vary as a function of hardness. The lower the hardness the lower the water quality criteria. The metals with hardness-dependent criteria include cadmium, copper, chromium III, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc.

This Order has established the criteria for hardness-dependent metals based on the hardness of the receiving water (actual ambient hardness) as required by the SIP[1] and the CTR[2]. The SIP and the CTR require the use of "receiving water" or "actual ambient" hardness, respectively, to determine effluent limitations for these metals. The CTR requires that the hardness values used shall be consistent with the design discharge conditions for design flows and mixing zones[3]. Where design flows for aquatic life criteria include the lowest one-day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (1Q10) and the lowest average seven consecutive day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (7Q10). [4] This section of the CTR also indicates that the design conditions should be established such that the appropriate criteria are not exceeded more than once in a three year period on average.[5] The CTR requires that when mixing zones are allowed the CTR criteria apply at the edge of the mixing zone, otherwise the criteria apply throughout the water body including at the point of discharge. [6] The CTR does not define the term "ambient," as applied in the regulations. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board has considerable discretion to consider upstream and downstream ambient conditions when establishing the appropriate water quality criteria that fully complies with the CTR and SIP.

Summary Findings

The ambient hardness for Wolf Creek is represented by the data in Figure F-1, below, which shows ambient hardness ranging from 19 mg/L to 134 mg/L based on

[1] The SIP does not address how to determine the hardness for application to the equations for the protection of aquatic life when using hardness-dependent metals criteria. It simply states, in Section 1.2, that the criteria shall be properly adjusted for hardness using the hardness of the receiving water.

[2] The CTR requires that, for waters with a hardness of 400 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$), or less, the actual ambient hardness of the surface water must be used (40 C.F.R. § 131.38(c)(4)).

[3] 40 C.F.R. §131.3(c)(4)(ii)

[4] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(iii) Table 4

[5] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(iii) Table 4, notes 1 and 2

[6] 40 C.F.R. §131.38(c)(2)(i)

collected ambient data from September 2010 through June 2015. Given the high variability in ambient hardness values, there is no single hardness value that describes the ambient receiving water for all possible scenarios (e.g., minimum, maximum). Because of this variability, staff has determined that based on the ambient hardness concentrations measured in the receiving water, the Central Valley Water Board has discretion to select ambient hardness values within the range of 19 mg/L (minimum) up to 134 mg/L (maximum). Staff recommends that the Board use the ambient hardness values shown in Table F-8 for the following reasons.

i. Using the ambient receiving water hardness values shown in Table F-8 will result in criteria and effluent limitations that ensure protection of beneficial uses under all ambient receiving water conditions.

ii. The Water Code mandates that the Central Valley Water Board establish permit terms that will ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses. In this case, using the lowest measured ambient hardness to calculate effluent limitations is not required to protect beneficial uses. Calculating effluent limitations based on the lowest measured ambient hardness is not required by the CTR or SIP, and is not reasonable as it would result in overly conservative limits that will impart substantial costs to the Discharger and ratepayers without providing any additional protection of beneficial uses. In compliance with applicable state and federal regulatory requirements, after considering the entire range of ambient hardness values, Board staff has used the ambient hardness values shown in Table F-8 to calculate the proposed effluent limitations for hardness-dependent metals. The proposed effluent limitations are protective of beneficial uses under all flow conditions.

iii. Using an ambient hardness that is higher than the minimum of 19 mg/L will result in a limit that may allow increased metals to be discharged to Wolf Creek, but such discharge is allowed under the antidegradation policy (State Water Board Resolution 68-16). The Board finds that this degradation is consistent with the antidegradation policy (see antidegradation findings in Section IV.D.4 of this Fact Sheet). The antidegradation policy requires the Discharger to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that: a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur, and b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained.

iv. Using the ambient hardness values shown in Table F-8 is fully consistent with the CTR and SIP's requirements for developing metals criteria.

Table F-8. Summary of CTR Criteria for Hardness-dependent Metals

CTR Metals	Ambient Hardness (mg/L)[2,3]	CTR Criteria (µg/L, total recoverable)[1]	
		acute	chronic
Copper	77	72	56
Chromium III	77	1,400	170
Cadmium	70 (acute) 77 (chronic)	3.0	2.0
Lead	67	49	1.9
Nickel	77	380	42
Silver	54	1.4	--
Zinc	77	164	191

[1] Metal criteria rounded to two significant figures in accordance with the CTR (40 C.F.R. §131.38(b)(2)).

[2] The ambient hardness values in this table represent actual observed receiving water hardness measurements from the dataset shown in Figure F-1.

[3] The CTR's hardness dependent metals criteria equations vary depending on the metal, which results in difference in the range of ambient hardness values that may be used to develop effluent limitations that are protective of beneficial uses and comply with CTR criteria for all ambient flow conditions.

Background

The State Water Board provided direction regarding the selection of hardness in two precedential water quality orders; WQO 2009-0008 for the City of Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant (Davis Order) and WQO 2004-0013 for the Yuba City Wastewater Treatment Plant (Yuba City Order). The State Water Board recognized that the SIP and the CTR do not discuss the manner in which hardness is to be ascertained, thus regional water boards have considerable discretion in determining ambient hardness so long as the selected value is protective of water quality criteria under the given flow conditions (Davis Order, p.10). The State Water Board explained that it is necessary that, "The [hardness] value selected should provide protection for all times of discharge under varying hardness conditions." (Yuba City Order, p. 8). The Davis Order also provides that, "Regardless of the hardness used, the resulting limits must always be protective of water quality criteria under all flow conditions." (Davis Order, p. 11).

The equation describing the total recoverable regulatory criterion, as established in the CTR, is as follows:

$$\text{CTR Criterion} = \text{WER} \times (e^{m[\ln(H)]+b}) \quad \text{(Equation 1)}$$

Where:

H = ambient hardness (as $CaCO_3$)[1]

WER = water-effect ratio

m, b = metal- and criterion-specific constants

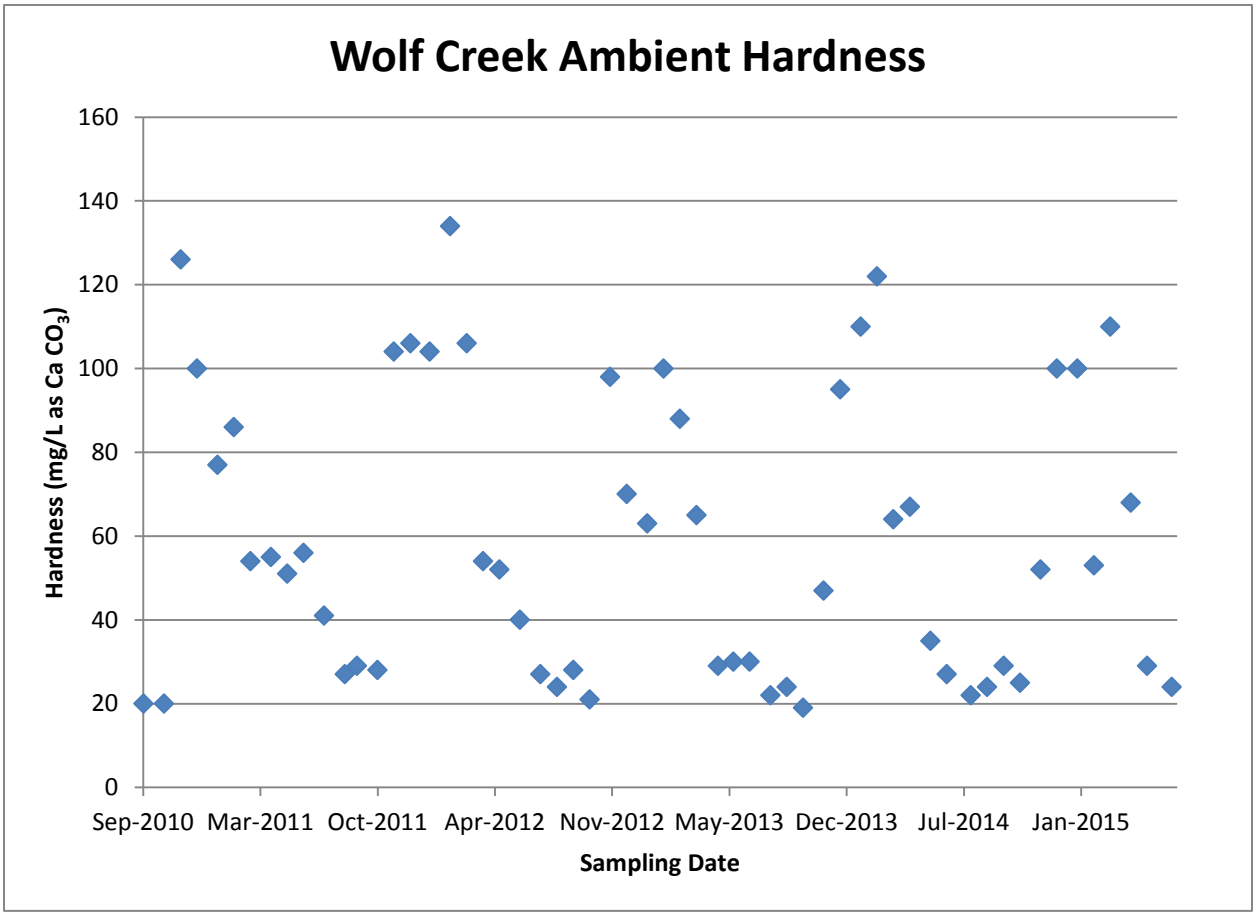
[1] For this discussion, all hardness values are expressed in mg/L as $CaCO_3$.

The direction in the CTR regarding hardness selection is that it must be based on ambient hardness and consistent with design discharge conditions for design flows and mixing zones. Consistent with design discharge conditions and design flows means that the selected "design" hardness must result in effluent limitations under design discharge conditions that do not result in more than one exceedance of the applicable criteria in a three year period.[1] Where design flows for aquatic life criteria include the lowest one-day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (1Q10) and the lowest average seven consecutive day flow with an average reoccurrence frequency of once in ten years (7Q10). The 1Q10 and 7Q10 Wolf Creek flows are 1.2 MGD and 1.49 MGD, respectively.

Ambient Conditions

The ambient receiving water hardness varied from 19 mg/L to 134 mg/L based on 58 samples collected between September 2010 and June 2015 (see Figure F-1).

Figure F-1. Observed Downstream Receiving Water Hardness Concentrations, September 2010 – June 2015



In this analysis, the entire range of ambient hardness concentrations shown in Figure F-1 were considered to determine the appropriate ambient hardness to calculate the CTR criteria and effluent limitations that are protective under all discharge conditions.

[1] 40 C.F.R. section 131.38(c)(2)(iii) Table 4, notes 1 and 2

Approach to derivation of criteria

As shown above, ambient hardness varies substantially. Because of the variation, there is no single hardness value that describes the ambient receiving water for all possible scenarios (e.g., minimum, maximum, mid-point). While the hardness selected must be hardness of the ambient receiving water, selection of an ambient receiving water hardness that is too high would result in effluent limitations that do not protect beneficial uses. Also, the use of minimum ambient hardness would result in criteria that are protective of beneficial uses, but such criteria may not be representative considering the wide range of ambient conditions.

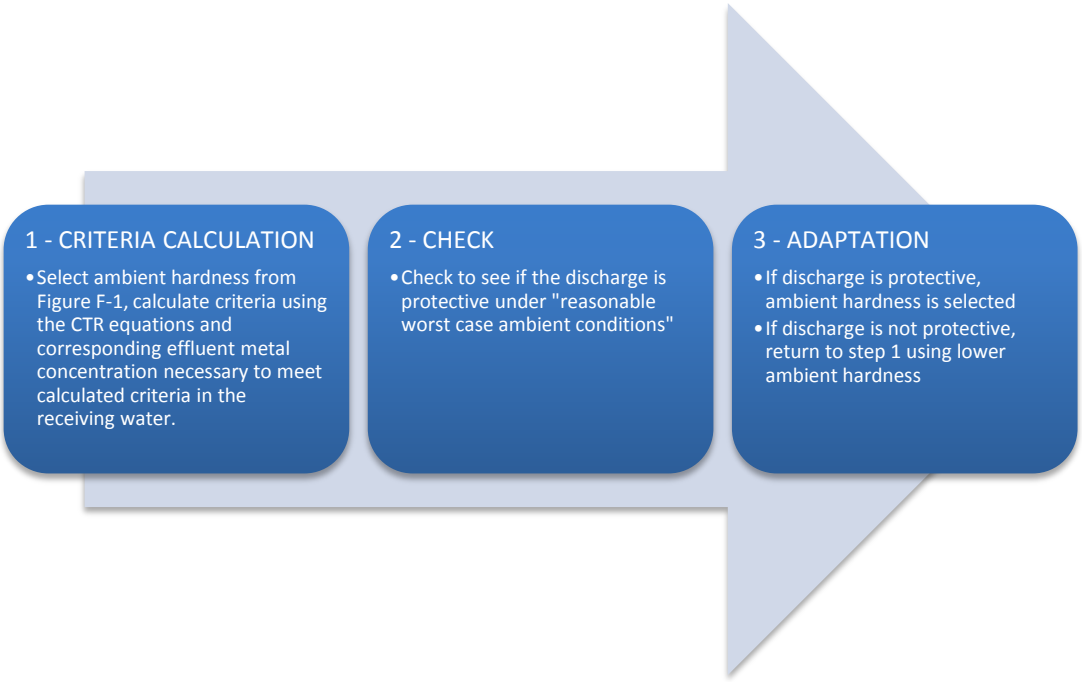
Reasonable worse-case ambient conditions. To determine whether a selected ambient hardness value results in effluent limitations that are fully protective while complying with federal regulations and state policy, staff have conducted an analysis considering varying ambient hardness and flow conditions. To do this, the Central Valley Water Board has ensured that the receiving water hardness and criteria selected for effluent limitations are protective under "reasonable-worst case ambient conditions." These conditions represent the receiving water conditions under which derived effluent limitations would ensure protection of beneficial uses under all ambient flow and hardness conditions.

Reasonable worse-case ambient conditions:

- "Low receiving water flow." CTR design discharge conditions (1Q10 and 7Q10) have been selected to represent reasonable worse case receiving water flow conditions.
- "High receiving water flow (maximum receiving water flow)." This additional flow condition has been selected consistent with the Davis Order, which required that the hardness selected be protective of the water quality criteria under all flow conditions.
- "Low receiving water hardness." The minimum upstream receiving water hardness condition of 19 mg/L was selected to represent the reasonable worse-case receiving water hardness.
- "Background ambient metal concentration at criteria." This condition assumes that the metal concentration in the upstream receiving water is equal to the CTR criteria (upstream of the Facility's discharge). Based on data in the record, this is a design condition that has not occurred in the receiving water and is used in this analysis to ensure that limits are protective of beneficial uses even in the situation where there is no assimilative capacity.

Iterative approach. An iterative analysis has been used to select the ambient hardness to calculate the criteria that will result in effluent limitations that protect beneficial uses under all flow conditions.

The iterative approach is summarized in the following algorithm and described below in more detail.



i. CRITERIA CALCULATION. CTR criteria are calculated using the CTR equations based on actual measured ambient hardness sample results, starting with the maximum observed ambient hardness of 134 mg/L. Effluent metal concentrations necessary to meet the above calculated CTR criteria in the receiving water are calculated in accordance with the SIP.[1] This should not be confused with an effluent limit. Rather, it is the Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA), which is "a definition of effluent water quality that is necessary to meet the water quality standards in the receiving water."[2] If effluent limits are found to be needed, the limits are calculated to enforce the ECA considering effluent variability and the probability basis of the limit.

ii. CHECK. Using U.S. EPA's simple mass balance equation[3], is used to evaluate if discharge at the computed ECA is protective. Resultant downstream metal concentration is then compared with downstream calculated CTR criteria under reasonable worst-case ambient conditions.

iii. ADAPT. If Step 2 results in:

(a) Receiving water metal concentration that complies with CTR criteria under reasonable worse-case ambient conditions, then the hardness value is selected.

(b) Receiving water metal concentration greater than CTR criteria, then return to bullet 1, selecting a lower ambient hardness value.

The CTR's hardness dependent metals criteria equation contains metal-specific constants, so the criteria vary depending on the metal. Therefore, Steps 1 through 3 must be repeated separately for each metal until ambient hardness values are determined that will result in criteria and effluent limitations that comply with the

[1] SIP Section 1.4.B, Step 2, provides direction for calculating the Effluent Concentration Allowance.
[2] U.S. EPA Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (TSD), pg. 96.
[3] U.S. EPA NPDES Permit Writers' Handbook (EPA 833-K-10-001, September 2010, pg. 6-24)

CTR and protect beneficial uses for all metals. This results in the different selected ambient hardness values shown in Table F-8 above.

Results of iterative analysis

The above iterative analysis for each CTR hardness-dependent metal results in the selected ambient hardness values shown in Table F-8, above. Using these hardness values to calculate criteria, which are actual sample results collected in the receiving water, will result in effluent limitations that are protective under all ambient flow conditions. Nickel and silver are used as examples below to illustrate the results of the analysis. Tables F-9 and F-10 below summarize the numeric results of the three step iterative approach for nickel and silver. As shown in the example tables, ambient hardness values of 77 mg/L (for nickel) and 54 mg/L (for silver) are used to derive criteria and effluent limitations. Then under the "check" step, worse-case ambient receiving water conditions are used to test whether discharge at the computed effluent limitations results in compliance with CTR criteria and protection of beneficial uses.

The results of the above analysis, summarized in the tables below, show that the ambient hardness values selected using the three-step iterative process results in protective effluent limitations that achieve CTR criteria under all flow conditions. Tables F-9 and F-10 below, summarize the critical low flow conditions. However, the analysis evaluated all flow conditions to ensure compliance with the CTR criteria at all times.

Table F-9. Verification of CTR Compliance for Nickel

Receiving water hardness used to compute effluent limitations				77 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$)
Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA) for Nickel[2]				42 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$)
	Downstream Ambient Concentrations Under Worst-Case Ambient Receiving Water Conditions			**Complies with CTR Criteria**
	Hardness (mg/L)	**CTR Criteria (µg/L)**	**Ambient Nickel Concentration**[1] **(µg/L)**	
1Q10	62	35	33	**Yes**
7Q10	59	33	31	**Yes**
Max receiving water flow	16	11	11	**Yes**

[1] This concentration is derived using worst-case ambient conditions. These conservative assumptions will ensure that the receiving water always complies with CTR criteria.

[2] The ECA defines effluent quality necessary to meet the CTR criteria in the receiving water. There is no effluent limitation for nickel as it demonstrates no reasonable potential.

Table F-10. Verification of CTR Compliance for Silver

Receiving water hardness used to compute effluent limitations				54 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$)
Effluent Concentration Allowance for Silver[2]				1.4 mg/L (as $CaCO_3$)
	Downstream Ambient Concentration Under Worst-Case Ambient Receiving Water Conditions			**Complies with CTR Criteria**
	Hardness (mg/L)	**CTR Criteria (µg/L)**	**Ambient Silver Concentration[1] (µg/L)**	
1Q10	62	1.8	1.0	**Yes**
7Q10	59	1.6	1.0	**Yes**
Max receiving water flow	16	0.18	0.18	**Yes**

[1] This concentration is derived using worst-case ambient conditions. These conservative assumptions will ensure that the receiving water always complies with CTR criteria.

[2] The ECA defines effluent quality necessary to meet the CTR criteria in the receiving water. There is no effluent limitation for silver as it demonstrates no reasonable potential.

3. Determining the Need for WQBEL's

a. **Constituents with No Reasonable Potential.** WQBEL's are not included in this Order for constituents that do not demonstrate reasonable potential (i.e., constituents were not detected in the effluent or receiving water); however, monitoring for those pollutants is established in this Order as required by the SIP. If the results of effluent monitoring demonstrate reasonable potential, this Order may be reopened and modified by adding an appropriate effluent limitation.

Most constituents with no reasonable potential are not discussed in this Order. However, the following constituents were found to have no reasonable potential after assessment of the data:

i. **Benzo(a)pyrene**

(a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.0044 for benzo(a)pyrene for the protection of human health from which both water and organisms are consumed.

(b) **RPA Results.** Benzo(a)pyrene was detected but not quantified at an estimated concentration of 0.2 µg/L and not detected in the remaining three samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. Upstream receiving water data for benzo(a)pyrene was not available.

The estimated result of 0.2 µg/L was collected on 1 October 2013. The laboratory report for the 1 October 2013 sample indicates that benzo(a)pyrene was also detected in the method blank at a concentration of 0.22 µg/L. SIP section 1.2 requires that the Regional Board use all available, valid, relevant, representative data and information, as determined by the Regional Board, to implement the SIP. SIP section 1.2 further states that the Regional Board has the discretion to consider if any data are inappropriate or insufficient for use in implementing the SIP. Therefore, in accordance with section 1.2 of the SIP, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that the estimated effluent result of 0.2 µg/L collected on 1 October 2013 is not representative of the discharge from the Facility. Excluding the 1 October 2013 result, benzo(a)pyrene was not detected in the effluent based on three samples (MDL of 0.031 µg/L).

Therefore, the discharge does not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion for benzo(a)pyrene.

ii. **Chlorine Residual**

(a) **WQO.** U.S. EPA developed National Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) for protection of freshwater aquatic life for chlorine residual. The recommended 4-day average (chronic) and 1-hour average (acute) criteria for chlorine residual are 0.011 mg/L and 0.019 mg/L, respectively. These criteria are protective of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. Order R5-2009-0067 included effluent limitations for chlorine residual based on the NAWQC criteria.

(b) **RPA Results.** The Discharger converted from chlorine to UV disinfection in September 2009. Therefore, the discharge does not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective and the effluent limitations for chlorine residual have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

The Discharger uses chlorine in the plant water supply which is used for pump seal water at the primary clarifiers, return activated sludge pumps, and digester pumps and in lime slurry batches. This water is also used for pressing operations for dewatering sludge, and the filtrate from the belt filter press is rerouted to the headworks. The Discharger states that these flows are minimal and any residual chlorine would be consumed immediately by demand. Due to the periodic chlorine use, this Order requires monitoring for chlorine when it is used for maintenance purposes. After a calendar year following the effective date of the permit, total chlorine residual monitoring may be discontinued if a calendar year of non-detects is established.

iii. **Chlorodibromomethane**

(a) **WQO**. The CTR includes a criterion of 0.41 µg/L for chlorodibromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed. Order R5-2009-0067 included effluent limitations for chlorodibromomethane based on the CTR criterion.

(b) **RPA Results**. Chlorodibromomethane was not detected in the effluent (MDL of 0.06 µg/L) based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. Upstream receiving water data for chlorodibromomethane was not available. Therefore, chlorodibromomethane in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criteria of 0.41 µg/L and effluent limitations have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal antibacksliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

iv. **Dichlorobromomethane**

(a) **WQO**. The CTR includes a criterion of 0.56 µg/L for dichlorobromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed. Order R5-2009-0067

included effluent limitations for dichlorobromomethane based on the CTR criterion.

(b) **RPA Results**. The MEC for dichlorobromomethane was 0.3 µg/L based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. Upstream receiving water data for dichlorobromomethane was not available. Therefore, dichlorobromomethane in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criteria of 0.56 µg/L and effluent limitations have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal antibacksliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

v. **Manganese**

(a) **WQO**. The Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – Consumer Acceptance limit for manganese is 50 µg/L. Order R5-2009-0067 included an annual average effluent limitation of 50 µg/L for manganese based on the Secondary MCL.

(b) **RPA Results**. For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Manganese is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgement in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent. The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odors, laundry staining), not for toxicity. Secondary MCLs are drinking water standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Title 22 requires compliance with these standards on an annual average basis, when sampling at least quarterly. To be consistent with how compliance with the standards is determined, the RPA was conducted based on the calendar year annual average manganese concentrations.

The maximum annual average effluent manganese concentration was 27 µg/L based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. The Drew Tunnel discharge to the Facility contributed low temperature, low pH groundwater with high manganese concentrations to the waste stream; however, this discharge was discontinued in September 2014. Based on the annual average effluent concentrations and the removal of the Drew Tunnel discharge, the Central Valley Water Board finds that manganese in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Secondary MCL of 50 µg/L and the Facility is adequately controlling the discharge of manganese. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, effluent limitations have not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal antibacksliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

vi. **Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS)**

(a) **WQO**. The Secondary MCL – Consumer Acceptance Limit for MBAS is 0.5 mg/L. Order R5-2009-0067 included an effluent limitation for MBAS.

(b) **RPA Results**. For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. MBAS are not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgement in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent. The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odors, laundry staining), not for toxicity. Secondary MCLs are drinking water standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Title 22 requires compliance with these standards on an annual average basis, when sampling at least quarterly. To be consistent with how compliance with the standards is determined, the RPA was conducted based on the calendar year annual average MBAS concentration.

The maximum annual average effluent MBAS concentration was 0.089 mg/L based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds that MBAS in the discharge do not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Secondary MCL of 0.5 mg/L and the Facility is adequately controlling the discharge of MBAS. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, effluent limitations have not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal antibacksliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

vii. **Nitrite**

(a) **WQO.** The State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has adopted a Primary MCL for the protection of human health for nitrite of 1 mg/L (measured as nitrogen). U.S. EPA has developed a Primary MCL and an MCL goal of 1 mg/L for nitrite (as nitrogen). Order R5-2009-0067 included an effluent limitation for nitrite based on the Primary MCL.

(b) **RPA Results.** The maximum effluent concentration was 0.14 mg/L based on 73 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. Upstream receiving water data for nitrite is not available. Therefore, nitrite in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Primary MCL, and the effluent limitation for nitrite has not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet). As discussed in section IV.C.3.b of this Fact Sheet, this Order does retain an effluent limitation for nitrate plus nitrite to ensure that the treatment process adequately nitrifies and denitrifies the waste stream.

viii. **Salinity**

(a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan contains a chemical constituent objective that incorporates state MCL's, contains a narrative objective, and contains numeric water quality objectives for certain specified water bodies for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, sulfate, and chloride. The U.S. EPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Chloride recommends acute and chronic criteria for the protection of aquatic life. There are no U.S. EPA water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life for electrical

conductivity, total dissolved solids, and sulfate. Additionally, there are no U.S. EPA numeric water quality criteria for the protection of agricultural, live stock, and industrial uses. Numeric values for the protection of these uses are typically based on site specific conditions and evaluations to determine the appropriate constituent threshold necessary to interpret the narrative chemical constituent Basin Plan objective. The Central Valley Water Board must determine the applicable numeric limit to implement the narrative objective for the protection of agricultural supply. The Central Valley Water Board is currently implementing the CV-SALTS initiative to develop a Basin Plan Amendment that will establish a salt and nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. Through this effort the Basin Plan will be amended to define how the narrative water quality objective is to be interpreted for the protection of agricultural use. All studies conducted through this Order to establish an agricultural limit to implement the narrative objective will be reviewed by and consistent with the efforts currently underway by CV-SALTS.

Table F-11. Salinity Water Quality Criteria/Objectives

Parameter	Agricultural WQ Objective[1]	Secondary MCL[2]	U.S. EPA NAWQC	Effluent	
				Average[3]	Maximum
EC (µmhos/cm)	Varies[2]	900, 1600, 2200	N/A	479	722
TDS (mg/L)	Varies	500, 1000, 1500	N/A	285	358
Sulfate (mg/L)	Varies	250, 500, 600	N/A	NR	NR
Chloride (mg/L)	Varies	250, 500, 600	860 1-hr 230 4-day	NR	NR

NR = Not Reported

1 Narrative chemical constituent objective of the Basin Plan. Procedures for establishing the applicable numeric limitation to implement the narrative objective can be found in the Policy for Application of Water Quality, Chapter IV, Section 8 of the Basin Plan. However, the Basin Plan does not require improvement over naturally occurring background concentrations. In cases where the natural background concentration of a particular constituent exceeds an applicable water quality objective, the natural background concentration will be considered to comply with the objective.

2 The Secondary MCL's are stated as a recommended level, upper level, and a short-term maximum level.

3 Maximum calendar annual average.

(1) **Chloride.** The Secondary MCL for chloride is 250 mg/L, as a recommended level, 500 mg/L as an upper level, and 600 mg/L as a short-term maximum.

(2) **Electrical Conductivity.** The Secondary MCL for electrical conductivity is 900 µmhos/cm as a recommended level, 1600 µmhos/cm as an upper level, and 2200 µmhos/cm as a short-term maximum. Order R5-2009-0067 included an effluent limitation for electrical conductivity of the municipal water supply plus 500 µmhos/cm or 700 µmhos/cm, whichever is less.

(3) **Sulfate.** The Secondary MCL for sulfate is 250 mg/L as a recommended level, 500 mg/L as an upper level, and 600 mg/L as a short-term maximum.

(4) **Total Dissolved Solids.** The Secondary MCL for total dissolved solids is 500 mg/L as a recommended level, 1000 mg/L as an upper level, and 1500 mg/L as a short-term maximum.

(b) **RPA Results**

(1) **Chloride**. Chloride data for the effluent and upstream receiving water was not available.

(2) **Electrical Conductivity**. A review of the data shows a maximum annual average effluent electrical conductivity concentration of 479 µmhos/cm, with a range from 235 µmhos/cm to 722 µmhos/cm based on 163 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. These levels do not exceed the Secondary MCL. The maximum observed annual average background receiving water electrical conductivity concentration was 104 µmhos/cm based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015.

(3) **Sulfate**. Sulfate data for the effluent and upstream receiving water was not available.

(4) **Total Dissolved Solids**. A review of the data shows a maximum annual average effluent total dissolved solids concentration of 285 mg/L, with a range of 157 mg/L to 358 mg/L based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. These levels do not exceed the Secondary MCL. Upstream receiving water data for total dissolved solids is not available.

Based on the low reported salinity, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion of water quality objectives for salinity and the effluent limitation for electrical conductivity has not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal antibacksliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet). In order to ensure that the Discharger will continue to control the discharge of salinity, this Order includes a requirement to continue to implement a salinity evaluation and minimization plan. Water supply monitoring is required to evaluate the relative contribution of salinity from the source water to the effluent.

b. **Constituents with Reasonable Potential.** The Central Valley Water Board finds that the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above a water quality standard for ammonia, BOD_5, cyanide, mercury, nitrate plus nitrite, pathogens, pH, and TSS. WQBEL's for these constituents are included in this Order. A summary of the RPA is provided in Attachment G, and a detailed discussion of the RPA for each constituent is provided below.

i. **Ammonia**

(a) **WQO.** The 1999 U.S. EPA National Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia (the "1999 Criteria"), recommends acute (1-hour average; criteria maximum concentration or CMC) standards based on pH and chronic (30-day average; criteria continuous concentration or CCC) standards based on pH and temperature. U.S. EPA also recommends that no 4-day average concentration should exceed 2.5 times the 30-day CCC. U.S. EPA found that as pH increased, both the acute and chronic toxicity of

ammonia increased. Salmonids were more sensitive to acute toxicity effects than other species. However, while the acute toxicity of ammonia was not influenced by temperature, it was found that invertebrates and young fish experienced increasing chronic toxicity effects with increasing temperature.

The U.S. EPA recently published national recommended water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life from the toxic effects of ammonia in freshwater (the "2013 Criteria")[1]. The 2013 Criteria is an update to U.S. EPA's 1999 Criteria, and varies based on pH and temperature. Although the 2013 Criteria reflects the latest scientific knowledge on the toxicity of ammonia to certain freshwater aquatic life, including new toxicity data on sensitive freshwater mussels in the Family Unionidae, the species tested for development of the 2013 Criteria may not be present in some Central Valley waterways. The 2013 Criteria document therefore states that, "*unionid mussel species are not prevalent in some waters, such as the arid west*…" and provides that, "*In the case of ammonia, where a state demonstrates that mussels are not present on a site-specific basis, the recalculation procedure may be used to remove the mussel species from the national criteria dataset to better represent the species present at the site*."

The Central Valley Water Board issued a 3 April 2014 California Water Code Section 13267 Order for Information: 2013 Final Ammonia Criteria for Protection of Freshwater Aquatic life (13267 Order) requiring the Discharger to either participate in an individual or group study to determine the presence of mussels or submit a method of compliance for complying with effluent limitations calculated assuming mussels present using the 2013 Criteria. The Discharger submitted a letter to the Central Valley Water Board indicating their participation in the Central Valley Clean Water Association Freshwater Collaborative Mussel Study. Studies are currently underway to determine how the latest scientific knowledge on the toxicity of ammonia reflected in the 2013 Criteria can be implemented in the Central Valley Region as part of a Basin Planning effort to adopt nutrient and ammonia objectives. Until the Basin Planning process is completed, the Central Valley Water Board will continue to implement the 1999 Criteria to interpret the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

Because Wolf Creek has a beneficial use of cold freshwater habitat and the presence of salmonids and early fish life stages in Wolf Creek is well documented, the recommended 1999 criteria for waters where salmonids and early life stages are present, were used in this Order.

The maximum permitted effluent pH is 8.0 standard units. In order to protect against the worst-case short-term exposure of an organism, a pH value of 8.0 was used to derive the acute criterion. The resulting acute criterion is 5.62 mg/L (as N).

A chronic criterion was calculated for each day when paired temperature data and pH were measured using the downstream receiving water data for temperature and pH. Rolling 30-day average criteria were calculated

[1] *Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Ammonia – Freshwater*, published August 2013 [EPA 822-R-13-001]

from downstream receiving water data using the criteria calculated for each day and the minimum observed 30-day average chronic criterion, or 30-day CCC. The 4-day average concentration is derived in accordance with the U.S. EPA criterion as 2.5 times the 30-day CCC. Based on the 30-day CCC of 1.67 mg/L (as N), the 4-day average concentration that should not be exceeded is 4.18 mg/L (as N).

(b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that, without treatment, would be harmful to fish and would violate the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective if discharged to the receiving water. Reasonable potential therefore exists and effluent limitations are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Ammonia is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

U.S. EPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" U.S. EPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data*." With regard to POTW's, U.S. EPA recommends that, "*POTW's should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and ammonia problems.*" (TSD, p. 50).

Nitrification is a biological process that converts ammonia to nitrite and nitrite to nitrate. Denitrification is a process that converts nitrate to nitrite or nitric oxide and then to nitrous oxide or nitrogen gas, which is then released to the atmosphere. The Discharger currently uses nitrification to remove ammonia from the waste stream. Inadequate or incomplete nitrification may result in the discharge of ammonia to the receiving stream. Ammonia is known to cause toxicity to aquatic organisms in surface waters. Discharges of ammonia in concentrations that produce

detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life would violate the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective. Although the Discharger nitrifies the discharge, inadequate or incomplete nitrification creates the potential for ammonia to be discharged and provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the NAWQC. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for ammonia and WQBEL's are required.

(c) **WQBEL's.** This Order retains the average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) of 1.6 mg/L from Order R5-2009-0067; however, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.45(d)(2), an average weekly effluent limitation (AWEL) is included in lieu of a maximum daily effluent limitation (MDEL). An AWEL of 3.5 mg/L was calculated using the existing ECA of 5.62 mg/L and statistical multipliers.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Based on 315 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015, the maximum ammonia concentration in the effluent was 5.95 mg/L; however, the highest average monthly effluent concentration was 1.44 mg/L. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board concludes that immediate compliance with effluent limitations is feasible.

ii. **Cyanide**

(a) **WQO**. The CTR includes maximum 1-hour average and 4-day criteria of 22 µg/L and 5.2 µg/L, respectively, for cyanide for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

(b) **RPA Results**. The MEC for cyanide was 6.6 µg/L, based on 39 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. No upstream receiving water data was available. Therefore, cyanide in the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR criterion for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

(c) **WQBEL's**. This Order contains a final AMEL and MDEL of 4.3 µg/L and 8.5 µg/L, respectively, based on the CTR criterion for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability**. The MEC for cyanide was 6.6 µg/L, however 37 of the 39 samples did not exceed the AMEL of 4.3 µg/L and 32 samples were not detected in the effluent. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board concludes that immediate compliance with effluent limitations is feasible.

iii. **Mercury**

(a) **WQO.** The current NAWQC for protection of freshwater aquatic life, continuous concentration, for mercury is 0.77 µg/L (30-day average, chronic criteria). The CTR contains a human health criterion (based on a threshold dose level causing neurological effects in infants) of 0.050 µg/L for waters from which both water and aquatic organisms are consumed. Both values are controversial and subject to change. In 40 C.F.R. part 131, U.S. EPA acknowledges that the human health criteria may not be protective of some aquatic or endangered species and that

"…*more stringent mercury limits may be determined and implemented through use of the State's narrative criterion.*" In the CTR, U.S. EPA reserved the mercury criteria for freshwater and aquatic life and may adopt new criteria at a later date.

(b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for mercury was 0.0069 µg/L based on 36 samples collected between February 2012 through January 2015. No upstream receiving water data for mercury was available. No effluent or receiving water data for methylmercury was available. Therefore, the effluent does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criteria for mercury, and the effluent limitations for mercury have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

However, mercury bioaccumulates in fish tissue and, therefore, the discharge of mercury to the receiving water may contribute to exceedances of the narrative toxicity objective and impact beneficial uses. The discharge of mercury to surface waters in the Central Valley draining to the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta are being limited in order to protect the beneficial uses of the Delta.

WQBEL's. Order R5-2009-0067 contained an annual mercury mass-loading effluent limitation of 0.068 lbs/year based on the 303(d) listing of the Bear River, to which Wolf Creek is tributary. The mass-loading effluent limitation of 0.068 lbs/year is retained in this Order. This limitation ensures the mercury loading is continued to be maintained at the current level until a TMDL can be established and U.S. EPA develops mercury standards that are protective of human health and is not less stringent than the previous limit. If U.S. EPA develops new water quality standards for mercury, this permit may be reopened and the effluent limitations adjusted.

(c) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Based on available mercury data, the Central Valley Water Board concludes that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

iv. **Nitrate and Nitrite**

(a) **WQO.** DDW has adopted Primary MCL's for the protection of human health for nitrite and nitrate that are equal to 1 mg/L and 10 mg/L (measured as nitrogen), respectively. DDW has also adopted a Primary MCL of 10 mg/L for the sum of nitrate and nitrite, measured as nitrogen.

U.S. EPA has developed a primary MCL and an MCL goal of 1 mg/L for nitrite (as nitrogen). For nitrate, U.S. EPA has developed Drinking Water Standards (10 mg/L as Primary MCL) and NAWQC for protection of human health (10 mg/L for non-cancer health effects).

(b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that, if untreated, will be harmful to fish and will violate the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. This Order, therefore, requires removal of ammonia (i.e., nitrification). Nitrification is a biological process that converts ammonia to nitrate and nitrite, and will result in effluent nitrate concentrations above the Primary MCL for nitrate plus nitrite. Nitrate

concentrations in a drinking water supply above the Primary MCL threatens the health of human fetuses and newborn babies by reducing the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood (methemoglobinemia). Reasonable potential for nitrate and nitrite therefore exists and WQBEL's are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Nitrate and nitrite are not priority pollutants. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

U.S. EPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" U.S. EPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data*." With regard to POTW's, U.S. EPA recommends that, "*POTW's should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and ammonia problems*." (TSD, p. 50).

The concentration of nitrogen in raw domestic wastewater is sufficiently high that the resultant treated wastewater has a reasonable potential to exceed or threaten to exceed the Primary MCL for nitrate plus nitrite unless the wastewater is treated for nitrogen removal, and therefore an effluent limit for nitrate plus nitrite is required. Denitrification is a process that converts nitrate to nitrite or nitric oxide and then to nitrous oxide or nitrogen gas, which is then released to the atmosphere. The Discharger currently uses nitrification/denitrification to remove ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate from the waste stream. Inadequate or incomplete denitrification may result in the discharge of nitrate and/or nitrite to the receiving stream. Discharges of nitrate plus nitrite in concentrations that exceed the Primary MCL would violate the Basin Plan narrative chemical constituents objective. Although the Discharger denitrifies the discharge, inadequate

or incomplete denitrification creates the potential for nitrate and nitrite to be discharged and provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Primary MCL. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for nitrate plus nitrite and WQBEL's are required.

(c) **WQBEL's.** This Order contains a final AMEL for nitrate plus nitrite of 10 mg/L (total as N) and an AWEL of 19 mg/L based on the Primary MCL. This effluent limitation is included in this Order to assure the treatment process adequately nitrifies and denitrifies the waste stream to protect the beneficial use of municipal and domestic supply.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** The maximum effluent nitrate plus nitrite concentration of 16.8 mg/L occurred in February 2012; the only month between February 2012 and January 2015 in which the AMEL of 10 mg/L was exceeded. The Central Valley Water Board concludes therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

v. **Pathogens**

(a) **WQO.** DDW has developed reclamation criteria, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3 (Title 22), for the reuse of wastewater. Title 22 requires that for spray irrigation of food crops, parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and other areas of similar public access, wastewater be adequately disinfected, oxidized, coagulated, clarified, and filtered, and that the effluent total coliform levels not exceed 2.2 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median; 23 MPN/100 mL, not to be exceeded more than once in a 30-day period; and 240 MPN/100 mL, at any time.

Title 22 also requires that recycled water used as a source of water supply for non-restricted recreational impoundments be disinfected tertiary recycled water that has been subjected to conventional treatment. A non-restricted recreational impoundment is defined as *"…an impoundment of recycled water, in which no limitations are imposed on body-contact water recreational activities.*" Title 22 is not directly applicable to surface waters; however, the Central Valley Water Board finds that it is appropriate to apply an equivalent level of treatment to that required by the DDW's reclamation criteria because the receiving water is used for irrigation of agricultural land and for contact recreation purposes. The stringent disinfection criteria of Title 22 are appropriate since the undiluted effluent may be used for the irrigation of food crops and/or for body-contact water recreation. Coliform organisms are intended as an indicator of the effectiveness of the entire treatment train and the effectiveness of removing other pathogens.

(b) **RPA Results.** Raw domestic wastewater inherently contains human pathogens that threaten human health and life, and constitute a threatened pollution and nuisance under CWC Section 13050 if discharged untreated to the receiving water. Reasonable potential for pathogens therefore exists and WQBEL's are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional,*

nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality." For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Pathogens are not priority pollutants. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

U.S. EPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" U.S. EPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" (TSD, p. 50).

The beneficial uses of Wolf Creek include municipal and domestic supply, water contact recreation, and agricultural irrigation supply, and there is, at times, less than 20:1 dilution. To protect these beneficial uses, the Central Valley Water Board finds that the wastewater must be disinfected and adequately treated to prevent disease. Although the Discharger provides disinfection, inadequate or incomplete disinfection creates the potential for pathogens to be discharged. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for pathogens and WQBEL's are required.

(c) **WQBEL's.** In accordance with the requirements of Title 22, this Order includes effluent limitations for total coliform organisms of 2.2 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median; 23 MPN/100 mL, not to be exceeded more than once in a 30-day period; and 240 MPN/100 mL as an instantaneous maximum.

The tertiary treatment process, or equivalent, is capable of reliably treating wastewater to a turbidity level of 2 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) as a daily average. Failure of the filtration system such that virus removal is impaired would normally result in increased particles in the effluent, which result in higher effluent turbidity. Turbidity has a major advantage for monitoring filter performance. Coliform testing, by comparison, is not conducted continuously and requires several hours, to days, to identify high coliform concentrations. Therefore, to ensure compliance with the DDW recommended Title 22 disinfection criteria, weekly average

specifications are impracticable for turbidity. This Order includes operational specifications for turbidity of 2 NTU as a daily average; 5 NTU, not to be exceeded more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period; and 10 NTU as an instantaneous maximum.

This Order contains effluent limitations for BOD_5, total coliform organisms, and TSS and requires a tertiary level of treatment, or equivalent, necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. The Central Valley Water Board has previously considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing these requirements.

Final WQBEL's for BOD_5 and TSS are based on the technical capability of the tertiary process, which is necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. BOD_5 is a measure of the amount of oxygen used in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter. The tertiary treatment standards for BOD_5 and TSS are indicators of the effectiveness of the tertiary treatment process. The principal design parameter for wastewater treatment plants is the daily BOD_5 and TSS loading rates and the corresponding removal rate of the system. The application of tertiary treatment processes results in the ability to achieve lower levels for BOD_5 and TSS than the secondary standards currently prescribed. Therefore, this Order requires AMEL's for BOD_5 and TSS of 10 mg/L, which is technically based on the capability of a tertiary system. In addition to the AWEL and AMEL, an MDEL for BOD_5 and TSS is included in the Order to ensure that the treatment works are not organically overloaded and operate in accordance with design capabilities.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** The Facility provides tertiary treatment and utilizes a UV disinfection system which was designed to achieve Title 22 criteria. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

vi. **pH**

(a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for surface waters (except for Goose Lake) that the *"…pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5."*

(b) **RPA Results.** Raw domestic wastewater inherently has variable pH. Additionally, some wastewater treatment processes can increase or decrease wastewater pH, which if not properly controlled, would violate the Basin Plan's numeric objective for pH in the receiving water. Therefore, reasonable potential exists for pH and WQBEL's are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. pH is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water

Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

U.S. EPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" U.S. EPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" (TSD, p. 50).

The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Based on 1,096 samples taken from February 2012 through January 2015, the maximum pH reported was 7.97 and the minimum was 6.5. The Facility did not exceed the instantaneous maximum pH effluent limitation. Although the Discharger has proper pH controls in place, the pH for the Facility's influent varies due to the nature of municipal sewage, which provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Basin Plan's numeric objective for pH in the receiving water. Therefore, WQBEL's for pH are required in this Order.

(c) **WQBEL's.** Order R5-2009-0067 contained instantaneous minimum and maximum effluent limitations of 6.5 and 8.0 for pH. The maximum effluent limitation of 8.0 is more stringent than required by the Basin Plan pH objective and was based on the treatment capabilities of the Facility. Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, this Order includes instantaneous minimum and maximum effluent limitations of 6.5 and 8.0 for pH.

(d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Effluent pH ranged from 6.5 to 7.97. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

4. WQBEL Calculations

a. This Order includes WQBEL's for ammonia, BOD_5, cyanide, mercury, nitrate plus nitrite, pathogens, pH, and TSS. The general methodology for calculating WQBEL's based on the different criteria/objectives is described in subsections IV.C.4.b through e, below. See Attachment H for the WQBEL calculations.

b. **Effluent Concentration Allowance.** For each water quality criterion/objective, the ECA is calculated using the following steady-state mass balance equation from Section 1.4 of the SIP:

ECA = C + D(C – B) *where C>B, and*
ECA = C *where C≤B*

where:

ECA = effluent concentration allowance
D = dilution credit
C = the priority pollutant criterion/objective
B = the ambient background concentration.

According to the SIP, the ambient background concentration (B) in the equation above shall be the observed maximum with the exception that an ECA calculated from a priority pollutant criterion/objective that is intended to protect human health from carcinogenic effects shall use the arithmetic mean concentration of the ambient background samples. For ECA's based on MCL's, which implement the Basin Plan's chemical constituents objective and are applied as annual averages, an arithmetic mean is also used for B due to the long-term basis of the criteria.

c. **Basin Plan Objectives and MCLs.** Effluent limitations for pH are based on the Basin Plan objectives and applied directly as instantaneous minimum and maximum effluent limitations. The effluent limitations for nitrate plus nitrite are based on the Primary MCL. The Primary MCL was applied directly as an AMEL, and an AWEL was calculated using the AMEL/AWEL multiplier from the SIP.

d. **Aquatic Toxicity Criteria.** WQBEL's based on acute and chronic aquatic toxicity criteria are calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The ECA's are converted to equivalent long-term averages (i.e., LTA_{acute} and $LTA_{chronic}$) using statistical multipliers and the lowest LTA is used to calculate the AMEL and MDEL using additional statistical multipliers.

e. **Human Health Criteria.** WQBEL's based on human health criteria, are also calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The AMEL is set equal to ECA and a statistical multiplier was used to calculate the MDEL.

$$AMEL = mult_{AMEL}\left[\min\left(\overbrace{M_A ECA_{acute}}^{LTA_{acute}}, M_C ECA_{chronic}\right)\right]$$

$$MDEL = mult_{MDEL}\left[\min\left(M_A ECA_{acute}, \underbrace{M_C ECA_{chronic}}_{LTA_{chronic}}\right)\right]$$

$$MDEL_{HH} = \left(\frac{mult_{MDEL}}{mult_{AMEL}}\right) AMEL_{HH}$$

where:
$mult_{AMEL}$ = statistical multiplier converting minimum LTA to AMEL
$mult_{MDEL}$ = statistical multiplier converting minimum LTA to MDEL
M_A = statistical multiplier converting acute ECA to LTA_{acute}
M_C = statistical multiplier converting chronic ECA to $LTA_{chronic}$

Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001

Table F-12. Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Conventional Pollutants						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	230	350	500	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.0
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	230	350	500	--	--
Priority Pollutants						
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	4.3	--	8.5	--	--
Mercury, Total Recoverable	lbs/year	0.068[2]	--	--	--	--
Non-Conventional Pollutants						
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.6	3.5	--	--	--
	lbs/day[1]	37	81	--	--	--
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	10	19	--	--	--
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	--	2.2[3]	23[4]	--	240

[1] Based on a design average dry weather flow of 2.78 MGD.
[2] The total annual mass discharge of total mercury shall not exceed 0.068 pounds/year for a calendar year.
[3] Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.
[4] Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.

5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct whole effluent toxicity testing for acute and chronic toxicity, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E section V). This Order also contains effluent limitations for acute toxicity and requires the Discharger to implement best management practices to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity.

a. **Acute Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00). The Basin Plan also states that, *"…effluent limits based upon acute biotoxicity tests of effluents will be prescribed where appropriate…*"

For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Acute toxicity is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Therefore, due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA. U.S. EPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available…A permitting authority might also determine that WQBEL's are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBEL's for pathogens in all permits for POTW's discharging to contact recreational waters).*" Although the discharge has been consistently in compliance with the acute effluent limitations, the Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater containing ammonia and other acutely toxic pollutants. Acute toxicity effluent limits are required to ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

U.S. EPA Region 9 provided guidance for the development of acute toxicity effluent limitations in the absence of numeric water quality objectives for toxicity in its document titled "*Guidance for NPDES Permit Issuance*", dated February 1994. In section B.2. "*Toxicity Requirements*" (pgs. 14-15) it states that, "*In the absence of specific numeric water quality objectives for acute and chronic toxicity, the narrative criterion 'no toxics in toxic amounts' applies. Achievement of the narrative criterion, as applied herein, means that ambient waters shall not demonstrate for acute toxicity: 1) less than 90% survival, 50% of the time, based on the monthly median, or 2) less than 70% survival, 10% of the time, based on any monthly median. For chronic toxicity, ambient waters shall not demonstrate a test result of greater than 1 TUc.*" Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, effluent limitations for acute toxicity have been included in this Order as follows:

Acute Toxicity. Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than:

Minimum for any one bioassay	70%
Median for any three consecutive bioassays	90%

b. **Chronic Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00) As shown in the table below, based on chronic WET testing performed by the Discharger from 7 February 2012 through 3 November 2014, the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

Table F-13. Whole Effluent Chronic Toxicity Testing Results

Date	Fathead Minnow *Pimephales promelas*		Water Flea *Ceriodaphnia dubia*		Green Algae *Selenastrum capricornutum*
	Survival (TUc)	Growth (TUc)	Survival (TUc)	Reproduction (TUc)	Growth (TUc)
7 February 2012	1	1	1	1	2
15 May 2012	1	1	1	1	1
11 September 2012	1	1	1	1	1
6 November 2012	1	1	1	1	1
5 February 2013	1	1	1	1	1
7 May 2013	1	1	1	1	1.3
7 June 2013	--	--	--	--	2
10 September 2013	1	1	1	1	1
5 November 2013	1	1	1	1	1
3 February 2014	1	1	1	1	--
6 February 2014	--	--	--	--	1.3
13 March 2014	--	--	--	--	1
27 March 2014	--	--	--	--	8
10 April 2014	--	--	--	--	1
21 April 2014	1	1	1	1	1
22 May 2014	--	--	--	--	1.3
8 September 2014	1	1	1	1	1
3 November 2014	1	1	1	1	1

No dilution has been granted for the chronic condition. Therefore, chronic toxicity testing results exceeding >1 chronic toxicity unit (TUc) demonstrates the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

The discharge has exhibited *S. capricornutum* toxicity on several occasions. Following toxicity exhibited in August 2010, the Discharger completed a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) in November 2011 but was unable to identify a source of toxicity. After toxicity was observed on 6 February 2014 and a March 2014 accelerated monitoring test, the Discharger submitted a 20 May 2014 TRE Action/Work Plan. The Discharger completed Phase I of the Action Plan in September 2014, which consisted of information and data acquisition and a Facility performance review. Based on the Phase I review, the Discharger conducted additional toxicity testing to evaluate 1) the effect of the UV system by conducting pre- and post-UV disinfection system sampling and 2) the effect of the diluent by conducting parallel toxicity test using the receiving water and laboratory water as the diluent. Chronic toxicity testing conducted in November 2014 showed that *S. capricornutum* growth in the pre-UV sample was two to three times higher than the growth in the post-UV sample (of final effluent). The Discharger believes the test results may indicate that the UV disinfection itself may inhibit *S. capricornutum* growth. The Discharger has found that toxicity is intermittent and that has hindered the effort to identify the cause of toxicity and interpret supplemental results.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Order requires quarterly chronic WET monitoring for demonstration of compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. In addition to WET monitoring, the Special Provision in section VI.C.2.a of the Order includes a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, requirements for accelerated monitoring, and requirements for TRE initiation if toxicity is demonstrated.

Numeric chronic WET effluent limitations have not been included in this Order. The SIP contains implementation gaps regarding the appropriate form and implementation of chronic toxicity limits. This has resulted in the petitioning of a NPDES permit in the Los Angeles Region[1] that contained numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations. To address the petition, the State Water Board adopted WQO 2003-012 directing its staff to revise the toxicity control provisions in the SIP. The State Water Board states the following in WQO 2003-012, "*In reviewing this petition and receiving comments from numerous interested persons on the propriety of including numeric effluent limitations for chronic toxicity in NPDES permits for publicly-owned treatment works that discharge to inland waters, we have determined that this issue should be considered in a regulatory setting, in order to allow for full public discussion and deliberation. We intend to modify the SIP to specifically address the issue. We anticipate that review will occur within the next year. We therefore decline to make a determination here regarding the propriety of the final numeric effluent limitations for chronic toxicity contained in these permits."* The process to revise the SIP is currently underway. Proposed changes include clarifying the appropriate form of effluent toxicity limits in NPDES permits and general expansion and standardization of toxicity control implementation related to the NPDES permitting process. Since the toxicity control provisions in the SIP are under revision it is infeasible to develop numeric effluent limitations for chronic toxicity. Therefore, this Order requires that the Discharger meet best management practices for compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, as allowed under 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(k).

To ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, the Discharger is required to conduct chronic WET testing, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E, section V.). Furthermore, the Special Provision contained at VI.C.2.a. of this Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify and implement corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge demonstrates toxicity exceeding the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, the Discharger is required to initiate a TRE in accordance with an approved TRE workplan or conduct a Toxicity Evaluation Study approved by the Executive Officer. The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to perform accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, as well as, the threshold to initiate a TRE if effluent toxicity has been demonstrated.

D. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations

1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations

40 C.F.R section 122.45(f)(1) requires effluent limitations be expressed in terms of mass, with some exceptions, and 40 C.F.R. section 122.45(f)(2) allows pollutants that are limited in terms of mass to additionally be limited in terms of other units of measurement. This Order includes effluent limitations expressed in terms of mass and concentration. In addition, pursuant to the exceptions to mass limitations provided in 40 C.F.R. section 122.45(f)(1), some effluent limitations are not expressed in terms of mass, such as pH and temperature, and when the applicable standards are expressed in

[1] In the Matter of the Review of Own Motion of Waste Discharge Requirements Order Nos. R4-2002-0121 [NPDES No. CA0054011] and R4-2002-0123 [NPDES NO. CA0055119] and Time Schedule Order Nos. R4-2002-0122 and R4-2002-0124 for Los Coyotes and Long Beach Wastewater Reclamation Plants Issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region SWRCB/OCC FILES A-1496 AND 1496(a)

terms of concentration (e.g., CTR criteria and MCL's) and mass limitations are not necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

Mass-based effluent limitations have been established in this Order for ammonia, BOD_5, and TSS because they are oxygen demanding substances. Except for the pollutants listed above, mass-based effluent limitations are not included in this Order for pollutant parameters for which effluent limitations are based on water quality objectives and criteria that are concentration-based.

Mass-based effluent limitations were calculated based upon the design flow (Average Dry Weather Flow) permitted in section IV.A.1.f of this Order.

2. Averaging Periods for Effluent Limitations

40 C.F.R. section 122.45(d) requires AWEL's and AMEL's for POTW's unless impracticable. For priority pollutants (i.e., cyanide), this Order includes AMEL's and MDEL's as required by the SIP. For BOD_5, pH, and TSS, AWEL's have been replaced or supplemented with effluent limitations utilizing shorter averaging periods. The rationale for using shorter averaging periods for these constituents is discussed in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

3. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements

The CWA specifies that a revised permit may not include effluent limitations that are less stringent than the previous permit unless a less stringent limitation is justified based on exceptions to the anti-backsliding provisions contained in CWA sections 402(o) or 303(d)(4), or, where applicable, 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(l).

The effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order, with the exception of effluent limitations for chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, cyanide (mass-based limitations only), dichlorobromomethane, electrical conductivity, manganese, mercury (concentration and mass based limitations based on the CTR), MBAS, nitrite, and nitrate plus nitrite (mass-based limitations only). The effluent limitations for these pollutants are less stringent than those in Order R5-2009-0067. This relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and federal regulations.

a. **CWA section 402(o)(1) and 303(d)(4).** CWA section 402(o)(1) prohibits the establishment of less stringent WQBEL's "*except in compliance with Section 303(d)(4).*" CWA section 303(d)(4) has two parts: paragraph (A) which applies to nonattainment waters and paragraph (B) which applies to attainment waters.

   i. For waters where standards are not attained, CWA section 304(d)(4)(A) specifies that any effluent limit based on a TMDL or other WLA may be revised only if the cumulative effect of all such revised effluent limits based on such TMDL's or WLAs will assure the attainment of such water quality standards.

   ii. For attainment waters, CWA section 303(d)(4)(B) specifies that a limitation based on a water quality standard may be relaxed where the action is consistent with the antidegradation policy.

   Wolf Creek is considered an attainment water for chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, electrical conductivity, manganese, mercury, MBAS, and nitrite because the receiving water is not listed as

impaired on the 303(d) list for these constituents.[1] As discussed in section IV.D.4, below, removal of the effluent limits complies with federal and state antidegradation requirements. Thus, removal of the effluent limitations for chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, cyanide (mass-based limitations only), dichlorobromomethane, electrical conductivity, manganese, mercury (concentration and mass-based limitations based on the CTR only), MBAS, nitrite, and nitrite (mass-based limitations only) from Order R5-2009-0067 meets the exception in CWA section 303(d)(4)(B).

b. **CWA section 402(o)(2).** CWA section 402(o)(2) provides several exceptions to the anti-backsliding regulations. CWA 402(o)(2)(B)(i) allows a renewed, reissued, or modified permit to contain a less stringent effluent limitation for a pollutant if information is available which was not available at the time of permit issuance (other than revised regulations, guidance, or test methods) and which would have justified the application of a less stringent effluent limitation at the time of permit issuance.

As described further in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet, updated information that was not available at the time Order R5-2009-0067 was issued indicates that chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, electrical conductivity, manganese, mercury, MBAS, and nitrite do not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in the receiving water. The updated information that supports the relaxation of effluent limitations for these constituents includes the following:

i. **Chlorine Residual.** The Discharger converted from chorine disinfection to UV disinfection in September 2009. Therefore, there is no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the NAWQC criterion for chlorine.

ii. **Chlorodibromomethane.** Chlorodibromomethane is a common byproduct of chlorine disinfection. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in September 2009. Additionally, effluent monitoring data collected between February 2012 and January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion for chlorodibromomethane.

iii. **Dichlorobromomethane.** Dichlorobromomethane is a common byproduct of chlorine disinfection. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in September 2009. Additionally, effluent monitoring data collected between February 2012 and January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion for dichlorobromomethane.

iv. **Electrical Conductivity**. Effluent monitoring data collected between February 2012 and January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the applicable water quality objectives for salinity.

v. **Manganese.** Effluent monitoring data collected between February 2012 and January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Secondary MCL.

[1] "*The exceptions in Section 303(d)(4) address both waters in attainment with water quality standards and those not in attainment, i.e. waters on the section 303(d) impaired waters list*." State Water Board Order WQ 2008-0006, Berry Petroleum Company, Poso Creek/McVan Facility.

vi. **Mercury**. Effluent monitoring data collected between February 2012 and January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion for mercury. A mass-loading limit for mercury has been retained from Order R5-2009-0067.

vii. **Methylene Blue Active Substances.** Effluent monitoring data collected between February 2012 and January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Secondary MCL.

viii. **Nitrite**. Effluent monitoring data collected February 2012 through January 2015 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Primary MCL.

Thus, removal of the effluent limitations for chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, electrical conductivity, manganese, mercury, MBAS, and nitrite from Order R5-2009-0067 is in accordance with CWA section 402(o)(2)(B)(i), which allows for the removal or relaxation of effluent limitations based on information that was not available at the time of permit issuance

c. **Mass Limitations.** Order R5-2009-0067 established a final mass-based effluent limitations for cyanide and nitrate plus nitrite. 40 C.F.R. section 122.45(f)(1)(ii) states that mass limitations are not required when applicable standards and limitations are expressed in terms of other units of measurement. The numerical effluent limitation for nitrate plus nitrite established in this Order is based on water quality standards and objectives, which are expressed in terms of concentration. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. section 122.25(f)(1)(ii), expressing the effluent limitations in terms of concentration is in accordance with Federal Regulations. Compliance with the concentration-based limit will ensure that significantly less mass of the pollutants is discharged to the receiving water. Discontinuing mass-based effluent limitations for cyanide and nitrate plus nitrite is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16. Any impact on existing water quality will be insignificant. Therefore, relaxation of effluent limitations is allowed under CWA section 303(d)(4).

4. Antidegradation Policies

This Order does not allow for an increase in flow or mass of pollutants to the receiving water. Therefore, a complete antidegradation analysis is not necessary. The Order requires compliance with applicable federal technology-based standards and with WQBEL's where the discharge could have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. The permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Compliance with these requirements will result in the use of best practicable treatment or control of the discharge. The impact on existing water quality will be insignificant.

This Order removes effluent limitations for chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, electrical conductivity, manganese, mercury (concentration and mass based limitations based on the CTR), MBAS, and nitrite based on updated monitoring data demonstrating that the effluent does not cause or contribute to an exceedance of the applicable water quality criteria or objectives in the receiving water. The removal of WQBEL's for these parameters will not results in an increase in

pollutants concentration or loading, a decrease in the level of treatment or control, or a reduction of water quality. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds that the removal of the effluent limitations does not result in an increase in pollutants or any additional degradation of the receiving water. Thus, the removal and relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.

5. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants

This Order contains both technology-based effluent limitations and WQBEL's for individual pollutants. The technology-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on flow and percent removal requirements for BOD_5 and TSS. Restrictions on these parameters are discussed in section IV.B of this Fact Sheet. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements. In addition, this Order contains effluent limitations more stringent than the minimum, federal technology-based requirements that are necessary to meet water quality standards. These limitations are not more stringent than required by the CWA.

WQBEL's have been derived to implement water quality objectives that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. To the extent that toxic pollutant WQBEL's were derived from the CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to 40 C.F.R. section 131.38. The procedures for calculating the individual WQBEL's for priority pollutants are based on the CTR implemented by the SIP, which was approved by U.S. EPA on 18 May 2000. All beneficial uses and water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by U.S. EPA prior to 30 May 2000. Any water quality objectives and beneficial uses submitted to U.S. EPA prior to 30 May 2000, but not approved by U.S. EPA before that date, are nonetheless "*applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA*" pursuant to 40 C.F.R. section 131.21(c)(1). Collectively, this Order's restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA.

Summary of Final Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001

Table F-14. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis[1]
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	
Average Dry Weather Flow	MGD	2.78[2]	--	--	--	--	DC
Conventional Pollutants							
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--	TTC
	lbs/day[3]	230	350	500	--	--	
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--	CFR
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.0	BP, PB

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis[1]
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--	TTC
	lbs/day[3]	230	350	500	--	--	
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--	CFR
Priority Pollutants							
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	4.3	--	8.5	--	--	CTR
Mercury, Total Recoverable	lbs/year	0.068[4]	--	--	--	--	PB
Non-Conventional Pollutants							
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	1.6	3.5	--	--	--	NAWQC
	lbs/day[3]	37	81	--	--	--	
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	10	19	--	--	--	MCL
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/ 100 mL	--	2.2[5]	23[6]	--	240	Title 22
Acute Toxicity	% Survival	70[7]/90[8]	--	--	--	--	BP
Chronic Toxicity	TUc	--	--	Narrative[9]	--	--	BP

[1] DC – Based on the design capacity of the Facility.
TTC – Based on tertiary treatment capability. These effluent limitations reflect the capability of a properly operated tertiary treatment plant.
CFR – Based on secondary treatment standards contained in 40 CFR part 133.
BP – Based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan.
PB – Based on Facility performance.
CTR – Based on water quality criteria contained in the California Toxics Rule and applied as specified in the SIP.
NAWQC – Based on U.S. EPA's National Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.
MCL – Based on the Primary Maximum Contaminant Level.
Title 22 – Based on CA Department of Public Health Reclamation Criteria, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3 (Title 22).

[2] The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 2.78 MGD.

[3] Based on an average dry weather flow of 2.78 MGD.

[4] The total annual mass discharge of total mercury shall not exceed 0.068 pounds/year for a calendar year.

[5] Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.

[6] Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.

[7] 70% minimum survival for any one bioassay.

[8] 90 % median for any three consecutive bioassays.

[9] There shall be no chronic toxicity in the effluent discharge.

E. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

F. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

G. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water

1. CWA section 303(a-c), requires states to adopt water quality standards, including criteria where they are necessary to protect beneficial uses. The Central Valley Water Board adopted water quality criteria as water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan states that "[t]*he numerical and narrative water quality objectives define the least stringent standards that the Regional Water Board will apply to regional waters in order to protect the beneficial uses.*" The Basin Plan includes numeric and narrative water quality objectives for various beneficial uses and water bodies. This Order contains receiving surface water limitations based on the Basin Plan numerical and narrative water quality objectives for bacteria, biostimulatory substances, color, chemical constituents, dissolved oxygen, floating material, oil and grease, pH, pesticides, radioactivity, suspended sediment, settleable substances, suspended material, tastes and odors, temperature, toxicity, and turbidity.

   a. **pH.** Order R5-2009-0067 established a receiving water limitation for pH specifying that discharges from the Facility shall not cause the ambient pH to change by more than 0.5 units based on the water quality objective for pH in the Basin Plan. The Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution R5-2007-0136 on 25 October 2007, amending the Basin Plan to delete the portion of the pH water quality objective that limits the change in pH to 0.5 units and the allowance of averaging periods for pH. The Basin Plan amendment has been approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and U.S. EPA. Consistent with the revised water quality objective in the Basin Plan, this Order does not require a receiving water limitation for pH change.

      In Finding No. 14 of Resolution R5-2007-0136 the Central Valley Water Board found that the change in the pH receiving water objective is consistent with the State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, in that the changes to water quality objectives (i) consider maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 C.F.R. § 131.12).

      Ammonia is the only constituent in the discharge regulated by this Order directly related to pH. The fixed ammonia effluent limitations in this Order are based on reasonable worse-case conditions. Although ammonia criteria are based on pH, and the pH receiving water limitations are more lenient in this Order than in the previous permit, the fixed ammonia limits are developed to protect under worse-case pH conditions. Therefore the relaxation of the pH receiving water limitation will protect aquatic life and other beneficial uses and will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses nor result in water quality less than described in applicable policies. The relaxation of the receiving water limitation is not expected to cause other impacts on water quality. The Central Valley Water Board finds that the relaxation of the pH receiving water limitation (i) is to the maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 C.F.R. § 131.12).

The revised receiving water limitation for pH, which is based on the amendment to the Basin Plan's pH water quality objective, reflects current scientifically supported pH requirements for the protection of aquatic life and other beneficial uses. The revised receiving water limitation for pH is more consistent with the current U.S. EPA recommended criteria and is fully protective of aquatic life and the other beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan. Changes in pH when pH is maintained within the range of 6.5 to 8.0 are neither beneficial nor adverse and, therefore, are not considered to be degradation in water quality. Attempting to restrict pH changes to 0.5 pH units would incur substantial costs without demonstrable benefits to beneficial uses. Thus, any changes in pH that would occur under the revised pH limitation would not only be protective of beneficial uses, but also would be consistent with maximum benefit to people of the State. Therefore the proposed amendment will not violate antidegradation policies.

b. **Turbidity.** Order R5-2009-0067 established a receiving water limitation for turbidity specifying that discharges from the Facility shall not cause the turbidity to increase more than 1 NTU where natural turbidity is between 0 and 5 NTU based on the water quality objective for turbidity in the Basin Plan. The Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution R5-2007-0136 on 25 October 2007, amending the Basin Plan to limit turbidity to 2 NTU when the natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU. The Basin Plan amendment has been approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and U.S. EPA. Consistent with the revised water quality objective in the Basin Plan, this Order limits turbidity to 2 NTU when the natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU.

In Finding No. 14 of Resolution R5-2007-0136 the Central Valley Water Board found that the change in the turbidity receiving water objective is consistent with the State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, in that the changes to water quality objectives (i) consider maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 C.F.R. § 131.12).

This Order includes operational specifications that require the Discharger to operate the treatment system to insure that turbidity shall not exceed 2 NTU as a daily average, and 5 NTU more than 5 percent of the time within a 24 hour period, and 10 NTU, at any time. Because this Order limits the average daily discharge of turbidity to 2 NTU, the Order will be protective of the receiving water under all natural background conditions as defined in the Basin Plan’s revised water quality objective for turbidity. The relaxation of the turbidity receiving water limitation will protect aquatic life and other beneficial uses and will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses nor result in water quality less than described in applicable policies. The relaxation of the receiving water limitation is not expected to cause other impacts on water quality. The Central Valley Water Board finds that the relaxation of the turbidity receiving water limitation (i) is to the maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 C.F.R. § 131.12).

The revised receiving water limitation for turbidity, which is based on the amendment to the Basin Plan's turbidity water quality objective, reflects current scientifically supported turbidity requirements for the protection of aquatic life and other beneficial uses and, therefore, will be fully protective of aquatic life and the

other beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan. Changes in turbidity allowed by the revised receiving water limitation, when ambient turbidity is below 1 NTU, would not adversely affect beneficial uses and would maintain water quality at a level higher than necessary to protect beneficial uses. Restricting low-level turbidity changes further may require costly upgrades, which would not provide any additional protection of beneficial uses. Thus, any changes in turbidity that would occur under the amended turbidity receiving water limitation would not only be protective of beneficial uses, but also would be consistent with maximum benefit to people of the State. Therefore, the relaxed receiving water limitations for turbidity will not violate antidegradation policies.

B. Groundwater

1. The beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater are municipal and domestic supply, industrial service supply, industrial process supply, and agricultural supply.

2. Basin Plan water quality objectives include narrative objectives for chemical constituents, tastes and odors, and toxicity of groundwater. The toxicity objective requires that groundwater be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in humans, plants, animals, or aquatic life. The chemical constituent objective states groundwater shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect any beneficial use. The tastes and odors objective prohibits taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. The Basin Plan also establishes numerical water quality objectives for chemical constituents and radioactivity in groundwaters designated as municipal supply. These include, at a minimum, compliance with MCL's in Title 22 of the CCR. The bacteria objective prohibits coliform organisms at or above 2.2 MPN/100 mL. The Basin Plan requires the application of the most stringent objective necessary to ensure that waters do not contain chemical constituents, toxic substances, radionuclides, taste- or odor-producing substances, or bacteria in concentrations that adversely affect municipal or domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial supply or some other beneficial use.

3. Groundwater limitations are required to protect the beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater.

VI. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The Discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under section 122.42.

Sections 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) of 40 C.F.R. establish conditions that apply to all state-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) of 40 C.F.R. allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in 40 C.F.R. sections 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference Water Code section 13387(e).

B. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

a. **Mercury.** This provision allows the Central Valley Water Board to reopen this Order in the event mercury is found to be causing toxicity based on acute or chronic toxicity test results, or if a TMDL program is adopted. In addition, this Order may be reopened if the Central Valley Water Board determines that a mercury offset program is feasible for dischargers subject to NPDES permits.

b. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** This Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity through a TRE. This Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE. Additionally, if a numeric chronic toxicity water quality objective is adopted by the State Water Board, this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation based on that objective.

c. **Water Effects Ratio (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating criteria for applicable inorganic constituents except for copper and zinc, which have site-specific WER's based on an October 2008 study. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable, except for copper and zinc. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WER's and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.

d. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection Operating Specifications.** UV system operating specifications are required to ensure that the UV system is operated to achieve the required pathogen removal. UV disinfection system specifications and monitoring and reporting requirements are required to ensure that adequate UV dosage is applied to the wastewater to inactivate pathogens (e.g., viruses) in the wastewater. UV dosage is dependent on several factors such as UV transmittance, UV power setting, wastewater turbidity, and wastewater flow through the UV disinfection system. The UV specifications in this Order are based on the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) and American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWRF) "*Ultraviolet Disinfection Guidelines for Drinking Water and Water Reuse"* first published in December 2000 and revised as a Third Edition dated August 2012 (NWRI guidelines). If the Discharger conducts a site-specific UV engineering study that identifies site-specific UV operating specifications that will achieve the virus inactivation required by Title 22 for disinfected tertiary recycled water, this Order may be reopened to modify the UV specifications, in accordance with Reopener Provision VI.C.1.f.

e. **Dilution Credits/Mixing Zones.** This Order does not allow dilution credits or mixing zones. If the Discharger conducts a dilution/mixing zone study demonstrating that dilution credits and mixing zones comply with the requirements of Section 1.4.2 of the SIP, this Order may be reopened to adjust effluent limitations based on allowable dilution credits/mixing zones for parameters to which it applies.

2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements

a. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Requirements.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00.) Based on whole

effluent chronic toxicity testing performed by the Discharger from 7 February 2012 through 3 November 2014, the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

This provision requires the Discharger to develop a TRE Workplan in accordance with U.S. EPA guidance. In addition, the provision provides a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger and requirements for accelerated monitoring, as well as, requirements for TRE initiation if toxicity has been demonstrated, except for chronic toxicity for *Selenastrum capricornutum* in which the Discharger may choose to conduct a site-specific Toxicity Evaluation Study instead.

Monitoring Trigger. A numeric toxicity monitoring trigger of > 1 TUc (where TUc = 100/NOEC) is applied in the provision, because this Order does not allow any dilution for the chronic condition. Therefore, a TRE is triggered when the effluent exhibits toxicity at 100% effluent.

Accelerated Monitoring. The provision requires accelerated WET testing when a regular WET test result exceeds the monitoring trigger. The purpose of accelerated monitoring is to determine, in an expedient manner, whether there is toxicity before requiring the implementation of a TRE. Due to possible seasonality of the toxicity, the accelerated monitoring should be performed in a timely manner, preferably taking no more than 2 to 3 months to complete.

The provision requires accelerated monitoring consisting of four chronic toxicity tests in a six-week period (i.e., one test every two weeks) using the species that exhibited toxicity. Guidance regarding accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation is provided in the *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control,* EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991 (TSD). The TSD at page 118 states, "*EPA recommends if toxicity is repeatedly or periodically present at levels above effluent limits more than 20 percent of the time, a TRE should be required.*" Therefore, four accelerated monitoring tests are required in this provision. If no toxicity is demonstrated in the four accelerated tests, then it demonstrates that toxicity is not present at levels above the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time (only 1 of 5 tests are toxic, including the initial test). However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of effluent toxicity (i.e. toxicity present exceeding the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time), the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.

See the WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart (Figure F-2), below, for further clarification of the accelerated monitoring requirements and for the decision points for determining the need for TRE initiation.

TRE Guidance. The Discharger is required to prepare a TRE Workplan in accordance with U.S. EPA guidance. Numerous guidance documents are available, as identified below:

i. *Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants*, EPA/833-B-99/002, August 1999.

ii. *Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations (TREs)*, EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989.

iii. *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures, Second Edition*, EPA 600/6-91/003, February 1991.

iv. *Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I*, EPA/600/6-91/005F, May 1992.

v. *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity, Second Edition*, EPA/600/R-92/080, September 1993.

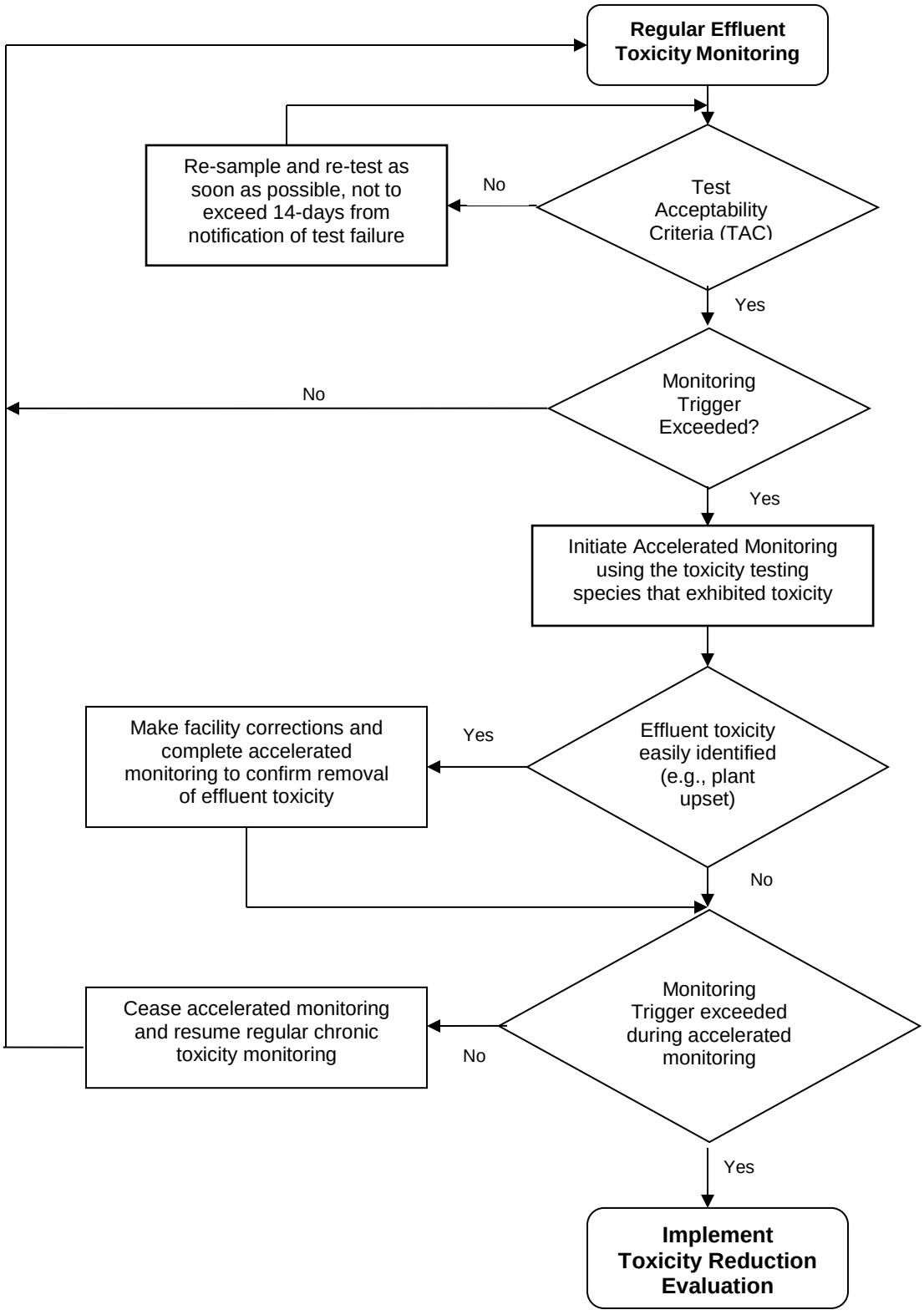
vi. *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity, Second Edition*, EPA 600/R-92/081, September 1993.

vii. *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms, Fifth Edition*, EPA-821-R-02-012, October 2002.

viii. *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA-821-R-02-013, October 2002.

ix. *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control*, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991.

Figure F-2
WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart



Site-specific Toxicity Evaluation Study. The Facility serves a population of approximately 12,100 and provides tertiary level treatment of the municipal wastewater disinfected by UV treatment. Sources of wastewater include commercial, industrial, and domestic sources within the City of Grass Valley. The discharge is a high-quality effluent that indicates low-level toxicity at times. The discharge experienced intermittent and low level effluent chronic toxicity to *Selenastrum capricornutum*. The Discharger submitted a TRE Action/Work Plan to the Central Valley Water Board on 20 May 2014 and completed Phase I of the Action Plan in September 2014 to investigate and identify causes of toxicity, and if possible, to implement corrective actions to eliminate toxicity. Contingent upon approval of the Executive Officer, this provision allows the Discharger to conduct a site-specific Toxicity Evaluation Study to investigate the cause of toxicity, individually or as part of a coordinated group effort with other dischargers that evaluate low level (TUc ≤ 2) and intermittent toxicity in effluent disinfected by an UV system. The study can be conducted in lieu of a TRE/TIE, unless the toxicity increases above 2 TUc, at which point the Discharger must conduct a TRE/TIE. Some studies completed within the Central Valley Region focusing on the role of the UV process in causing toxicity indicated, though not conclusively, that free radicals may play a role in the observed toxicity in effluent disinfected by a UV system (City of Woodland TIE/TRE findings from 2009-2014, Robertson-Bryan, Inc.).

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

a. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** An evaluation and minimization plan for salinity is required to be implemented in this Order to ensure that the Discharger continues to control sources of salinity.

4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications

a. **Filtration System Operating Specifications.** Turbidity is included as an operational specification as an indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system for providing adequate disinfection. The tertiary treatment process utilized at this Facility is capable of reliably meeting a turbidity limitation of 2 NTU as a daily average. Failure of the treatment system such that virus removal is impaired would normally result in increased particles in the effluent, which result in higher effluent turbidity and could impact UV dosage. Turbidity has a major advantage for monitoring filter performance, allowing immediate detection of filter failure and rapid corrective action. The operational specification requires that turbidity prior to disinfection shall not exceed 2 NTU as a daily average; 5 NTU, more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period, and an instantaneous maximum of 10 NTU.

b. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System Operating Specifications.** This Order requires that wastewater shall be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to the DDW reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3, (Title 22), or equivalent. To ensure that the UV disinfection system is operated to achieve the required pathogen removal, this Order includes effluent limits for total coliform organisms, filtration system operating specifications, and UV disinfection system operating specifications. Compliance with total coliform effluent limits alone does not ensure that pathogens in the municipal wastewater have been deactivated by the UV disinfection system. Compliance with the effluent limits and the filtration system and UV disinfection operating specifications demonstrates compliance with the equivalency to Title 22 disinfection requirement.

The NWRI guidelines include UV operating specifications for compliance with Title 22. For water recycling in accordance with Title 22, the UV system shall be an approved system included in the *Treatment Technology Report for Recycled Water*,

December 2009 (or a later version, as applicable) published by the DDW. The UV system shall also conform to all requirements and operating specifications of the NWRI guidelines. A memorandum dated 1 November 2004 issued by DDW to Regional Water Board executive officers recommended that provisions be included in permits for water recycling treatment plants employing UV disinfection requiring dischargers to establish fixed cleaning frequency of lamp sleeves, as well as, include provisions that specify minimum delivered UV dose that must be maintained (per the NWRI Guidelines).

For granular media filtration, the NWRI Guidelines recommend a minimum hourly average UV dose of 100 mJ/cm^2. Therefore, this Order includes UV operating specifications requiring a minimum hourly average UV dose of 100 mJ/cm^2 and a minimum hourly average UV transmittance of 55%, per the NWRI Guidelines. If the Discharger conducts a site-specific UV engineering study that demonstrates a lower UV dose meets a Title 22 equivalent virus removal, this Order may be reopened to revise the UV operating specifications accordingly.

c. **Equalization Pond Operating Requirements**. The operation and maintenance specifications for this pond in this Order are necessary to protect the public and the beneficial uses of the groundwater, and to prevent nuisance conditions.

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTW's Only)

a. **Pretreatment Requirements**

i. The federal CWA section 307(b), and federal regulations, 40 C.F.R. part 403, require POTW's to develop an acceptable industrial pretreatment program. A pretreatment program is required to prevent the introduction of pollutants, which will interfere with treatment plant operations or sludge disposal, and prevent pass through of pollutants that exceed water quality objectives, standards or permit limitations. Pretreatment requirements are imposed pursuant to 40 C.F.R. part 403.

ii. In a February 2003 letter from USEPA Region IX to the Discharger for USEPA's *Pretreatment Performance Evaluation Inspection Report*, USEPA outlined pretreatment requirements and recommendations that could be performed either by the Discharger of by the Central Valley Water Board, including permitting, inspection, and sampling responsibilities for two categorical industrial users (LanMark Circuits and BK Powder Coating). The letter also documented that significant flow from Drew Tunnel was a concern because WWTPs are not designed to handle non-domestic wastewaters, particularly those that are corrosive or toxic. The letter specified that the waste discharge requirements of the NPDES shall specify pretreatment reporting requirements, which were initially included in Order R5-2003-0089.

iii. Drew Tunnel mine drainage, which accounted for 20-40 percent of the total plant flow, was discontinued in September 2014. The Facility now treats discharge from one categorical industrial user (LanMark Circuits) in the service area.

iv. The Discharger shall implement and enforce its pretreatment program and is an enforceable condition of this Order. If the Discharger fails to perform the pretreatment functions, the Central Valley Water Board, the State Water Board or U.S. EPA may take enforcement actions against the Discharger as authorized by the CWA.

v. Subsequent to submission of the initial annual Pretreatment Report in February 2017, if the categorical industrial user (CIU) is in compliance with the Discharger's prescribed pretreatment requirements over the previous two years and the Facility has not violated effluent limitations due to the CIU's discharge over the two year period, the Discharger may request approval from the Executive Officer to discontinue pretreatment requirements.

b. The State Water Board issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order 2006-0003-DWQ (General Order) on 2 May, 2006. The Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for the General Order were amended by Water Quality Order WQ 2008-0002-EXEC on 20 February 2008. The General Order requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems with greater than one mile of pipes or sewer lines to enroll for coverage under the General Order. The General Order requires agencies to develop sanitary sewer management plans (SSMP's) and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSO's), among other requirements and prohibitions.

Furthermore, the General Order contains requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows. Inasmuch that the Discharger's collection system is part of the system that is subject to this Order, certain standard provisions are applicable as specified in Provisions, section VI.C.5. For instance, the 24-hour reporting requirements in this Order are not included in the General Order. The Discharger must comply with both the General Order and this Order. The Discharger and public agencies that are discharging wastewater into the facility were required to obtain enrollment for regulation under the General Order by 1 December 2006.

c. **Anaerobically Digestible Material.** Managers of POTW's increasingly are considering the addition of organic material such as food waste, fats, oils and grease (FOG) into their anaerobic digesters for co-digestion. Benefits of accepting these materials include increasing the volume of methane and other biogases available for energy production and ensuring such materials are disposed of at the POTW instead of discharged into the collection system potentially causing sanitary sewer overflows. The State Water Board has been working with the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) to delineate jurisdictional authority for the receipt of hauled-in anaerobically digestible material (ADM[1]) at POTW's for co-digestion.

CalRecycle is proposing an exclusion from Process Facility/Transfer Station permits for direct injection of ADM to POTW anaerobic digesters for co-digestion that are regulated under waste discharge requirements or NPDES permits. The proposed CalRecycle exclusion is restricted to ADM that has been prescreened, slurried, and processed/conveyed in a closed system to be co-digested with regular POTW sludge. The CalRecycle exclusion assumes that a POTW has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for the proper handling, processing, tracking, and management of the ADM received.

The Discharger currently does not accept hauled-in ADM for direct injection into its anaerobic digester for co-digestion. However, if the Discharger proposes to receive hauled-in ADM for injection into its anaerobic digester for co-digestion, this provision

[1] CalRecycle has proposed to define "anaerobically digestible material" to include inedible kitchen grease as defined in Food and Agricultural Code section 19216, food material as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 17852 and vegetative food material.

requires the Discharger to notify the Central Valley Water Board and develop and implement SOP's for this activity prior to initiation of the hauling. The requirements of the SOP's are discussed in Section VI.C.5.d.

6. Other Special Provisions

a. **Title 22, or Equivalent, Disinfection Requirements**. Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, this Order requires wastewater to be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to DDW reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3 (Title 22), or equivalent. Title 22 is not directly applicable to surface waters; however, the Central Valley Water Board finds that it is appropriate to apply an equivalent level of treatment to that required by the DDW's reclamation criteria because the undiluted effluent may be used for the irrigation of food crops and/or for body-contact water recreation.

7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable

VII. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

CWA section 308 and 40 C.F.R. sections 122.41(h), (j)-(l), 122.44(i), and 122.48 require that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Central Valley Water Board to establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E of this Order establishes monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements that implement federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this Facility.

A. Influent Monitoring

1. Influent monitoring is required to collect data on the characteristics of the wastewater and to assess compliance with effluent limitations (e.g., BOD_5 and TSS reduction requirements). The monitoring frequencies for flow (continuous) and pH (continuous) have been retained from Order R5-2009-0067.

2. Monitoring data collected over the term of Order R5-2009-0067 indicates that the effluent was consistently in compliance with the percent removal limitations for BOD_5 and TSS. Therefore, this Order reduces the influent monitoring frequency from three times per week to once per week. The Central Valley Water Board finds that this frequency is sufficient to determine compliance with the applicable percent removal limitations.

B. Effluent Monitoring

1. Pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(i)(2) effluent monitoring is required for all constituents with effluent limitations. Effluent monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with effluent limitations, assess the effectiveness of the treatment process, and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream and groundwater.

2. Effluent monitoring frequencies and sample types for flow (continuous), pH (continuous), cyanide (monthly), mercury (monthly), ammonia (two times per week), electrical conductivity (weekly), hardness (monthly), nitrite (two times per month), nitrate plus nitrite (two times per month), temperature (daily), and total dissolved solids (monthly) have been retained from Order R5-2009-0067 to determine compliance with effluent limitations, where applicable, and characterize the effluent for these parameters.

3. This Order establishes effluent monitoring for nitrate twice per month, consistent with the frequency for nitrite, to calculate the effluent nitrate plus nitrite concentration and ensure that the Facility provides adequate denitrification.

4. Monitoring data collected over the term of Order R5-2009-0067 for carbon tetrachloride, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, lead, silver, aluminum, manganese, MBAS, and settleable solids did not demonstrate reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives/criteria. Thus, specific monitoring requirements for these parameters have not been retained from Order R5-2009-0067.

5. Monitoring data collected over the term of Order R5-2009-0067 indicates that the effluent was consistently in compliance with the effluent limitations for BOD_5 and TSS. Therefore, this Order reduces the effluent monitoring frequency from three times per week to once per week. The Central Valley Water Board finds that this frequency is sufficient to determine compliance with the applicable effluent limitations.

6. Order R5-2009-0067 required monitoring for turbidity continuously at Monitoring Location EFF-001. This Order retains the monitoring frequency for turbidity, but moves the point of compliance from Monitoring Location EFF-001 to an internal compliance point following the filtration system and prior to the UV disinfection system (Monitoring Location FIL-001).

7. In accordance with Section 1.3 of the SIP, periodic monitoring for priority pollutants for which criteria or objectives apply and for which no effluent limitations have been established is required. This Order requires monitoring quarterly during the third year of the permit term in order to collect data to conduct an RPA for the next permit renewal. See section IX.E of the MRP for more detailed requirements related to performing priority pollutant monitoring.

8. Order R5-2009-0067 required continuous monitoring for chlorine residual. In September 2009, the Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection with UV disinfection. This Order requires daily monitoring for chlorine residual during periods of chlorine use in the treatment system. <u>After a calendar year following the effective date of the permit, total chlorine residual monitoring may be discontinued if a calendar year of non-detects is established</u>.

9. Order R5-2009-0067 required monitoring for total coliform organisms three times per week at Monitoring Location EFF-001. This Order retains the monitoring frequency for total coliform organisms, but moves the point of compliance from Monitoring Location EFF-001 to an internal compliance point following the UV disinfection system (Monitoring Location UVS-002).

10. Water Code section 13176, subdivision (a), states: "*The analysis of any material required by [Water Code sections 13000-16104] shall be performed by a laboratory that has accreditation or certification pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 100825) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.*" The DDW certifies laboratories through its Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP).

    Section 13176 cannot be interpreted in a manner that would violate federal holding time requirements that apply to NPDES permits pursuant to the CWA. (Wat. Code §§ 13370, subd. (c), 13372, 13377.) Section 13176 is inapplicable to NPDES permits to the extent it is inconsistent with CWA requirements. (Wat. Code § 13372, subd. (a).) The holding time requirements are 15 minutes for chlorine residual, dissolved oxygen, and pH, and immediate analysis is required for temperature. (40 C.F.R. § 136.3(e), Table II). The Discharger maintains an ELAP certified laboratory on-site and conducts analysis for dissolved oxygen, and pH within the required 15 minute hold times.

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

1. **Acute Toxicity.** Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, quarterly 96-hour bioassay testing is required to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitation for acute toxicity.

2. **Chronic Toxicity.** Consistent with Order R5-2009-0067, quarterly chronic whole effluent toxicity testing is required in order to demonstrate compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

D. Receiving Water Monitoring

1. Surface Water

a. Receiving water monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with receiving water limitations and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream.

b. Upstream and downstream receiving water monitoring requirements have been retained for pH (monthly), dissolved oxygen (monthly), electrical conductivity (monthly), hardness (monthly), temperature (monthly), and turbidity (monthly).

c. Upstream and downstream receiving water monitoring requirements for radionuclides have not been retained as monitoring is unnecessary to determine compliance with permit conditions.

d. Order R5-2009-0067 required monthly receiving water monitoring for fecal coliform organisms at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002. This Order includes effluent limitations for total coliform organisms which are more stringent than the receiving water limitations for fecal coliform organisms. Compliance with the effluent limitations for total coliform organisms is expected to be protective of the receiving water limitation for fecal coliform organisms. Therefore, this Order reduces the receiving water monitoring frequency from monthly to quarterly for fecal coliform organisms.

e. In accordance with Section 1.3 of the SIP, periodic monitoring is required for priority pollutants for which criteria or objectives apply and for which no effluent limitations have been established. This Order requires upstream receiving water monitoring for priority pollutants and other pollutants of concern semi-annually during the year 2018, concurrent with effluent monitoring, in order to collect data to conduct an RPA for the next permit renewal. See section IX.E of the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) for more detailed requirements related to performing priority pollutant monitoring.

2. Groundwater – Not Applicable

E. Other Monitoring Requirements

1. **Biosolids Monitoring**

Biosolids monitoring is required to ensure compliance with the biosolids disposal requirements contained in the Special Provision contained in section VI.C.5.b. of this Order. Biosolids disposal requirements are imposed pursuant to 40 C.F.R. part 503 to protect public health and prevent groundwater degradation.

2. **Water Supply Monitoring**

Water supply monitoring is required to evaluate the source of constituents in the wastewater. This Order has reduced monitoring for electrical conductivity and total dissolved solids from monthly to annually based on low effluent salinity levels.

3. **UV Disinfection System Monitoring**

UV system monitoring and reporting are required to ensure that the UV system is operated to adequately inactivate pathogens in the wastewater. UV disinfection system monitoring is imposed to achieve equivalency to requirements established by DDW and the NWRI Guidelines.

4. **Equalization Pond Monitoring**

Treatment pond monitoring is required to ensure proper operation of the storage pond. Weekly monitoring for freeboard, pH, dissolved oxygen, and odors has been retained from Order No. R5-2009-0067. The Discharger lined both equalization ponds during the fall of 2014 to prevent the release of waste constituents to groundwater.

5. **Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study Program**

Under the authority of section 308 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1318), U.S. EPA requires major permittees under the NPDES Program to participate in the annual DMR-QA Study Program. The DMR-QA Study evaluates the analytical ability of laboratories that routinely perform or support self-monitoring analyses required by NPDES permits. There are two options to satisfy the requirements of the DMR-QA Study Program: (1) The Discharger can obtain and analyze a DMR-QA sample as part of the DMR-QA Study; or (2) Per the waiver issued by U.S.EPA to the State Water Board, the Discharger can submit the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study from their own laboratories or their contract laboratories. A Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study is similar to the DMR-QA Study. Thus, it also evaluates a laboratory's ability to analyze wastewater samples to produce quality data that ensure the integrity of the NPDES Program. The Discharger shall submit annually the results of the DMR-QA Study or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study to the State Water Board. The State Water Board's Quality Assurance Program Officer will send the DMR-QA Study results or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study to U.S. EPA's DMR-QA Coordinator and Quality Assurance Manager.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Central Valley Water Board has considered the issuance of WDR's that will serve as an NPDES permit for the City of Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Central Valley Water Board staff has developed tentative WDR's and has encouraged public participation in the WDR adoption process.

A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Central Valley Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDR's for the discharge and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided through the following; Grass Valley Daily Union, posting of the Notice of Public Hearing at the nearest city hall or county courthouse, nearest post office (if allowed) and at the public entrance to the Facility.

The public had access to the agenda and any changes in dates and locations through the Central Valley Water Board's website at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/

B. Written Comments

Interested persons were invited to submit written comments concerning tentative WDR's as provided through the notification process. Comments were due either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Central Valley Water Board at the address on the cover page of this Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Central Valley Water Board, the written comments were due at the Central Valley Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on 30 December 2015.

C. Public Hearing

The Central Valley Water Board held a public hearing on the tentative WDR's during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date:	18/19 December 2016
Time:	8:30 a.m.
Location:	Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region 11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Interested persons were invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Central Valley Water Board heard testimony pertinent to the discharge, WDR's, and permit. For accuracy of the record, important testimony was requested in writing.

D. Reconsideration of Waste Discharge Requirements

Any aggrieved person may petition the State Water Board to review the decision of the Central Valley Water Board regarding the final WDR's. The petition must be received by the State Water Board at the following address within 30 calendar days of the Central Valley Water Board's action:

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

For instructions on how to file a petition for review, see
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml

E. Information and Copying

The Report of Waste Discharge, other supporting documents, and comments received are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Central Valley Water Board by calling (916) 464-3291.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDR's and NPDES permit should contact the Central Valley Water Board, reference this facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Brian Taylor at (916) 464-4662.

ATTACHMENT G – SUMMARY OF REASONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS

Constituent	Units	MEC	B	C	CMC	CCC	Water & Org	Org. Only	Basin Plan	MCL	Reasonable Potential
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	5.95	--	1.67	5.62[2]	1.67[3]	--	--	--	--	Yes
Benzo(a)pyrene	µg/L	0.20	--	0.004	--	--	0.0044	0.049	--	0.2	No[4]
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	<0.06	--	0.41	--	--	0.41	34	--	80[5]	No
Copper, Total Recoverable	µg/L	9.7	--	56	72	56	1,300	--	--	1,000	No
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	6.6	--	5.2	22	5.2	700	220,000	--	150	Yes
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	0.3	--	0.56	--	--	0.56	46	--	80[5]	No
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	479[1]	104[1]	900	--	--	--	--	--	900	No
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	27[1]	--	50	--	--	--	--	--	50	No
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	0.0069	--	0.050	--	--	0.050	0.051	--	2	No[4]
Methylene Blue Active Substances	µg/L	0.089[1]	--	0.50	--	--	--	--	--	0.5	No
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	16.8	--	10	--	--	--	--	--	10	Yes
Nitrite Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	0.14	--	1.0	--	--	--	--	--	1.0	No
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	285[1]	--	500	--	--	--	--	--	500	No

General Note: All inorganic concentrations are given as a total recoverable.
MEC = Maximum Effluent Concentration
B = Maximum Receiving Water Concentration or lowest detection level, if non-detect
C = Criterion used for Reasonable Potential Analysis
CMC = Criterion Maximum Concentration (CTR or NTR)
CCC = Criterion Continuous Concentration (CTR or NTR)
Water & Org = Human Health Criterion for Consumption of Water & Organisms (CTR or NTR)
Org. Only = Human Health Criterion for Consumption of Organisms Only (CTR or NTR)
Basin Plan = Numeric Site-specific Basin Plan Water Quality Objective
MCL = Drinking Water Standards Maximum Contaminant Level
NA = Not Available
ND = Non-detect

Footnotes:
(1) Represents the maximum observed average annual concentration for comparison with the MCL.
(2) U.S. EPA National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 1-hour average.
(3) U.S. EPA National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 30-day average.
(4) See section IV.C.3 of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F) for a discussion of the RPA results.
(5) Represents the Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes, which includes bromoform, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, and dichlorobromomethane.

ATTACHMENT H – CALCULATION OF WQBEL'S

Human Health WQBEL's Calculations									
Parameter	**Units**	**Criteria**	**Mean Background Concentration**	**Dilution Factor**	**MDEL/AMEL Multiplier**	**AMEL Multiplier**	**AMEL**	**MDEL**	**AWEL**
Nitrate plus Nitrite, Total (as N)	mg/L	10	No data	0	1.93	1.51	10	--	19

Aquatic Life WQBEL's Calculations																
Parameter	**Units**	**Criteria**		**Dilution Factors**		**Aquatic Life Calculations**							**Final Effluent Limitations**			
		CMC	**CCC**	**CMC**	**CCC**	**ECA Multiplier$_{acute}$**	**LTA$_{acute}$**	**ECA Multiplier$_{chronic}$**	**LTA$_{chronic}$**	**AMEL Multiplier$_{95}$**	**AWEL Multiplier**	**MDEL Multiplier$_{99}$**	**AMEL[3]**	**AWEL[4]**	**MDEL[5]**
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	5.62[1]	3.18[1]	--	--	0.08[2]	0.5	0.27[2]	0.87	3.61[2]	7.71[2]	--	1.6	3.5	--
Cyanide, Total Recoverable	µg/L	22	5.2	--	--	0.32	7.1	0.53	2.74	1.55	--	3.11	4.3	--	8.5

[1] Criteria used in Order R5-2009-0067.
[2] Based on data collected for Order R5-2009-0067.
[3] Average Monthly Effluent Limitations are calculated according to Section 1.4 of the SIP using a 95th percentile occurrence probability.
[4] Average Weekly Effluent Limitations are calculated according to Section 1.4 of the SIP using a 98th percentile occurrence probability.
[5] Maximum Daily Effluent Limitations are calculated according to Section 1.4 of the SIP using a 99th percentile occurrence probability.